



ARTS  
SHOWCASE:

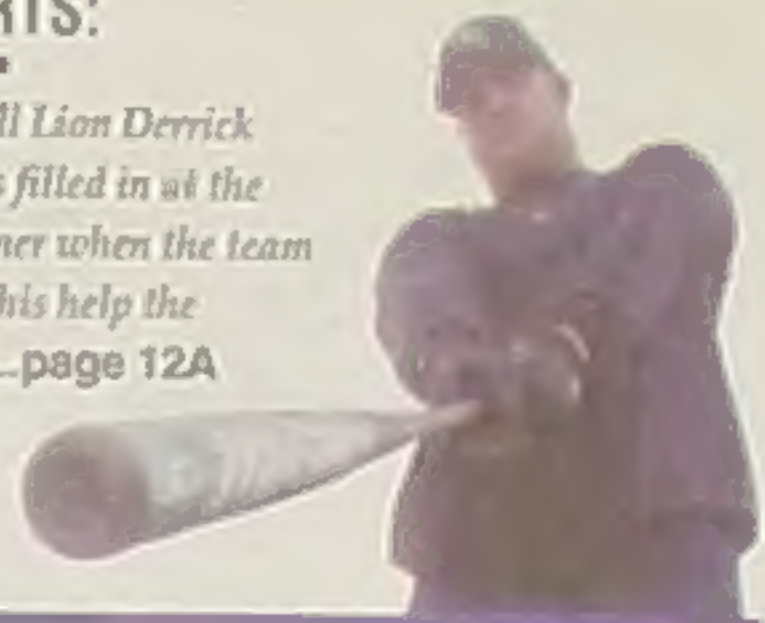
After nine seasons on the air, the cast of 'Seinfeld' is calling it quits. Fans on campus mourn the loss of this TV giant.....page 7A

# THE CHART

MISSOURI SOUTHERN STATE COLLEGE, JOPLIN, MO 64801-1595  
VOLUME No. 58, ISSUE No. 24

SPORTS:

Baseball Lion Derrick Walters filled in at the hot corner when the team needed his help the most.....page 12A



CRIMINAL JUSTICE/SOCIAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

## Porn study interests FBI

Research leads student to present in Washington

By KIKI COFFMAN  
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Katherine Ray has been called a radical because of her intensity and devotion to the study and prevention of child abuse.

But now her in-depth research into the issue of child pornography on the Internet has prompted the interest of the FBI, who wants her to come to Washington, D.C. to present her research for a committee.

Ray's research has become a hot commodity in Washington due to the lack of hard evidence on the issue.

Her vigil at the computer resulted in a comprehensive study into a controversial issue that previously was argued without hard evidence. Ray spent more than 240 hours online in her study that began May 7, 1997.

After her study grabbed attention at the 35th annual meeting at the Albuquerque (N.M.) Convention Center, Ray was approached by a professor in Little Rock, Ark. to submit some abstracts of her research to a conference in Washington, D.C. — a conference that will be attended by the FBI.

"My whole career at Southern has been based on child abuse studies," said Ray, a senior criminal justice and sociology major at Missouri Southern.

"Between 1995 and 1996 the Internet was a major issue in the news because the CDA (Communications Decency Act), which was going to help monitor some of the stuff that came across the Internet, was being discussed a lot," she said.

The topic came around at a prime time for Ray, who was ready to research an issue related to child abuse for one of her majors, criminal justice.

"There had not been any studies done on Internet child pornography. So I wrote up a proposal and submitted it, then I started from scratch."

When Ray began her study, the search did not proceed in a rapid fashion.

"I had not had any experience on searching the Net for pornography or child pornography, so I just kind of developed guidelines as I went along. For the first two weeks I didn't find anything but child pornography issues on the Net," she said. "But once I got in and figured out the techniques, it wasn't very hard to access other sites."

Ray videotaped the screen and the computer's keyboard as she surfed her way through a terrain of child porn, rape, and genitalia mutilation.

"I researched adult pornography and nudity sites that sometimes offered easy access into the type of thing pedophiles look for," she said, "and at first, I was physically ill."

Ray would like to see new organizations, such as xxx, separate pornography from other organizations like .com.

"We may not be able to do away with all the pornography online, but we can isolate it and make it easier to track and easier to block."

Ray originally worried about being placed on an FBI list if she downloaded any pornographic images.

But her research in an educational study without monetary gain grants her legitimacy and a quasi-clearance to own the objects of her angst — her rapidly growing collection of downloaded pornographic images, especially that of pre-pubescent children.

"I think what makes the research so extensive and valid is that it is a goal for me," she said.

"I want to see laws passed and lives changed as a result."

Ray intends on repeating the study to further investigate the growing market of child pornography.

Eventually she plans to study the origins of the Web pages to find out if they are related and possibly coming from similar locales. □

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

## Simpson takes reins from retiring Spector

By J.L. GRIFFIN  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Outside the mass of offices on the third floor of Hearnes Hall is Dr. Dale Simpson's modest abode.

It's like an enclave in the small nation of English instructors' offices. He requests to have the door closed when someone's visiting. That's a sight that will likely become more and more common as the years progress.

Simpson recently was selected from 55 applicants to take over for the retiring Missouri Southern English department head, Dr. Stephen Spector.

"After I'd been here and in the ranks for a while you start thinking about administrative work," he said.

Simpson, who came to the College in 1979, was picked after a committee of four English instructors and one English major whittled the candidates down to four. After the four were interviewed, the committee had the department as a whole make the final decision.

"I don't think we were looking at personality," said Dr. Henry Harder, professor of English. "We looked at professional qualifications."

Simpson, Dr. Ann Marlowe, and two external candidates were interviewed.

Simpson said he will maintain the status quo in some respects, but also change some areas.

"As a member of the department, you want a department head to make your job easier," Simpson said.

Harder said the candidates were asked about the

future of the department, and change was discussed.

"It seems to me common sense that the campus will change, the College will change, and we have to change with it," Harder said. "However, change for change sake is not progress. We have to be forward looking. All four candidates had ideas how they thought the problems and opportunities should be addressed."

Simpson said he would like Southern English instructors to become more active in conferences. Traveling, publishing, and making presentations in a direction he would have his faculty go.

"It's actually a dual focus," Simpson said of his new position. "Part of what I need to do is have them do their job the best they can, but I also see myself having to battle complacency."

Spector said he had no words of advice for Simpson and was sure he'd do a fine job and that his footwork may be one of his best attributes.

"He knows what he's doing, he'll be terrific," he said. "He's also a great round dancer with the Tangle Footers."

Simpson said Spector will be missed after he leaves. "He's been such an interesting department head. We've enjoyed the six years with him," he said. "When it comes down to me, there are a lot of things I'm going to have to learn."

Spector said he would be "more or less" retiring from teaching and his greatest concern was more immediate than long term.

"I don't know what I'm going to do, I'm going to have to find health-care benefits," he said. □



“It seems to me common sense that the campus will change, the College will change, and we have to change with it... We have to be forward looking.”

Dr. Henry Harder  
English professor

STUDENT LIFE BEAT



- |                 |                   |                           |
|-----------------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Salad Fork   | 5. Knife          | 9. Bread and Butter Plate |
| 2. Dinner Fork  | 6. Iced Tea Spoon | A. Coffee Setting         |
| 3. Dessert Fork | 7. Dinner Spoon   | B. Iced Tea Glass         |
| 4. Dinner Plate | 8. Soup Spoon     | C. Water Glass            |

## This class has students devouring homework

By JEFF WELLS  
STAFF WRITER

Chicken breasts over fettuccine smothered in white cheese sauce, fresh carrots, crisp green beans, and chocolate cheese-cake are the laboratory supplies students dream about in late morning biology lectures.

These tools are used to teach table manners by the career services staff in the Professional Development class.

For the past two years, a mock luncheon has been held for students to

practice their etiquette and small-talk skills in a safe setting. The spring semester luncheon was held Monday.

"The purpose of this luncheon is to give our students an opportunity to practice some of the etiquette skills that they have learned in class," said Jennifer Yazell, director of career services. "I think it is important to take what you've learned in the classroom and actually do it. We've talked about dining etiquette for quite

awhile now, and it gives them the chance to sit down at a formal place setting and really practice what they have learned."

With lessons complete, the 34 students dined knowing how to eat and talk properly, diffusing the age-old question of which fork to use.

"When you are at a very formal place setting, there is often more than one kind of fork and more than one



### Dining at ease

Things to remember when dining or eating a formal dinner or meal.

When in doubt, with each course, use utensils on the outside and move in.

All forks (except seafood fork) are placed to the left of plate.

Glasses, spoons, and knives are placed on the right side of plate.

A spoon or fork above the plate will designate what is being served for dessert.

TURN TO DINNER, PAGE 10A

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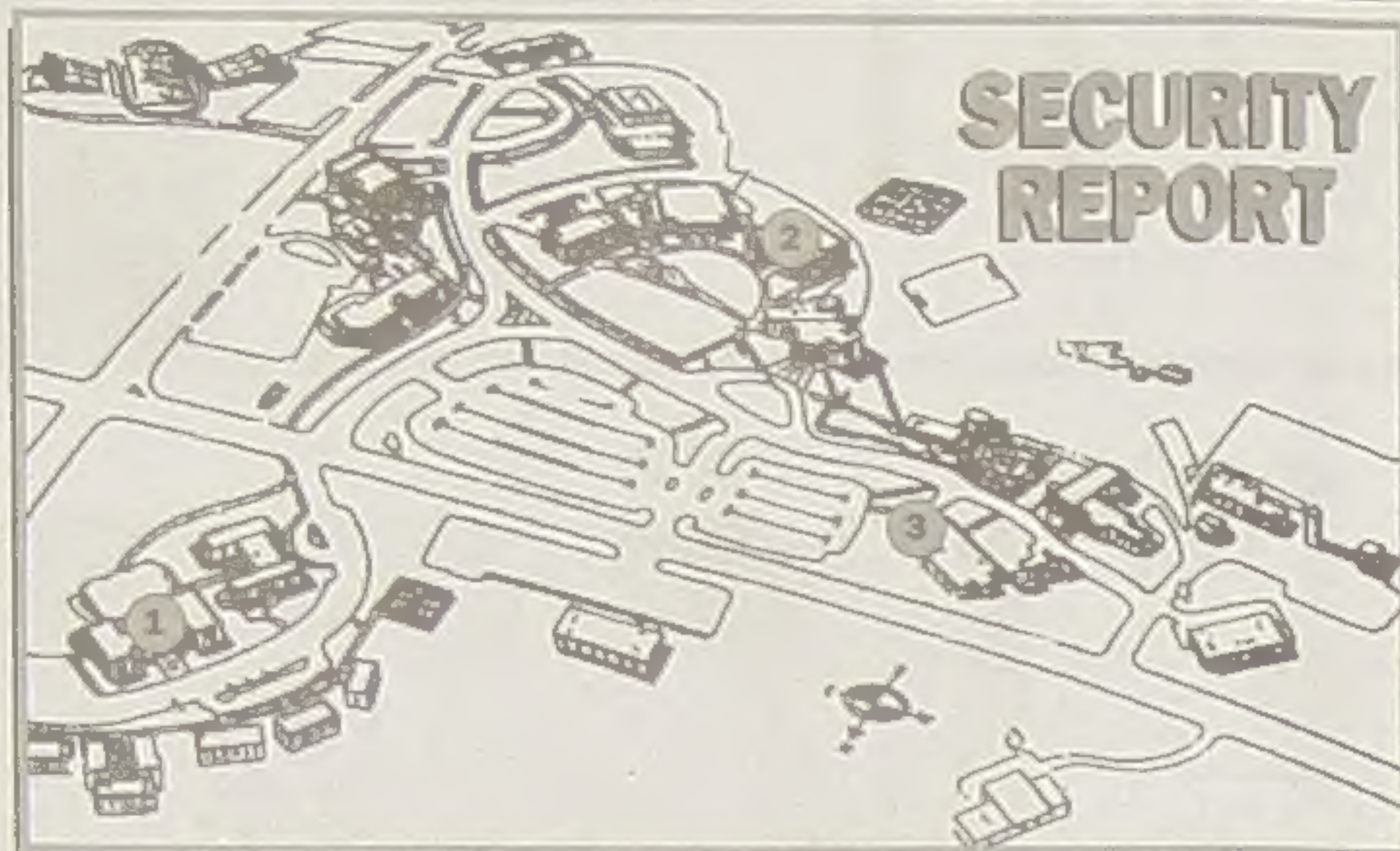
What's  
Inside



AROUND CAMPUS:

Last weekend several children came to Southern to display their writing talents at the Young Author's Conference.....page 6A



SECURITY  
REPORT

- 1 05/02/98 Blaine Hall 2:30 a.m. A student reported someone stealing his wallet while he was sleeping in his room. The wallet contained ten dollars and other various items.
- 2 04/30/98 Reynolds Hall/Kuhn Hall Two students, Russell Hight, sophomore undecided, and Tina Sutton, sophomore radiology technology, slipped on wet floors and were treated for minor injuries by the college nurse in the health center.

All proceeds of all advertising go to The Chart, the student newspaper of Missouri Southern State College.

NANA'

## Alumna garners award

By AILEEN GRONWOLD  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Dreams do come true. For Connie Robson, a Missouri Southern alumna, they just keep coming true over and over.

Robson's dream since fifth grade was to be a published writer, and with eight children's books on the market (published under the name "Constance Hiser"), it seemed she had arrived. But this year another dream came true — she won a state book award.

"Every state has an award for the best children's book, and I happened to win the Hawaii award," she said. "It's called the 'Nana' award, after the state bird."

The award represents the students' choice of their favorite book. They had nominated Robson's book, *Ghosts in the Fourth Grade*, for six years and this year it took the top spot.

"The award included a trip to Hawaii, April 15-24," Robson said. "I

spoke at several schools and public libraries, went on inter-island TV, and did some signings at malls."

Robson said most of her books target a grade school audience between the ages of 8 and 11, and they usually are mysteries or fantasy stories.

"When I started writing, my son was about that age, and that's where my voice seemed to fall naturally," she said.

In addition to writing children's books, Robson has written greeting cards for Gibson Cards for several years. The success she has today follows a history of hard work.

"[When I first started writing] I was so ignorant I thought it would be easier to write a children's book," she said. "My first success was my 13th manuscript, and it had been rejected several times."

Robson said she was not overly discouraged by the difficulty of getting published because she had been warned to expect several rejections.

Her trip to Hawaii sparked an idea for a future book.

"I'd like to do a children's biography of the last monarch of Hawaii, Queen Liliuokalani," she said. "I spoke with some of the librarians and they thought it was a great idea."

Robson has also toyed with the idea of writing a book based on an incident that happened in her family in a Civil War border raid. The dark tone of the incident would make it challenging to portray in a children's book, she said.

Dr. Doris Walters, professor of English at Missouri Southern, teaches Children's Literature and is quite familiar with Robson's work.

"I always mention her in class, and I just had a student give a report on one of her books," she said. "She writes with a lot of humor."

Walters knew Robson when she was a student at Southern, though she never had her in class.

"She was a very committed student," she said. "This award means she has definitely come into her own as a writer." □

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COLLEGE PERSONNEL

# Familiar faces leave College ranks

## Kelley to let life 'unfold'

By NICK PARKER  
MANAGING EDITOR

Taking an opportunity to do something different, Bruce Kelley, associate professor of computer science, is retiring after 15 years at Missouri Southern.



TIM WILSON/The Chart  
Bruce Kelley, associate professor computer science, will retire this month after 15 years.

Kelley said several factors played in his decision to leave the teaching field, one of which was a lack of enthusiasm for his job.

"I just feel like I don't have the creativity anymore, and I want to stop while I'm doing OK," he said. "I've started to see signs that I don't enjoy it as much anymore. I don't want to ever not like it."

At the close of this semester, Kelley will begin what he calls a leisurely year in preparation for a move to New Mexico. Kelley's wife, Judith, owns a house the couple will live in while in New Mexico.

Kelley said he doesn't have any definite plans for his retirement. He said he just wanted to wait and see where things went.

"In New Mexico there are a lot of places to explore and a lot of things to do," he said. "I wouldn't rule out the possibility of going back to work. But I just want to take the opportunity to let life unfold in front of me and see what happens."

It has been the constant involvement with students that Kelley enjoyed most. "I've really had a good time here," he said.

"Teaching here has been good, because you're pretty much left alone to teach."

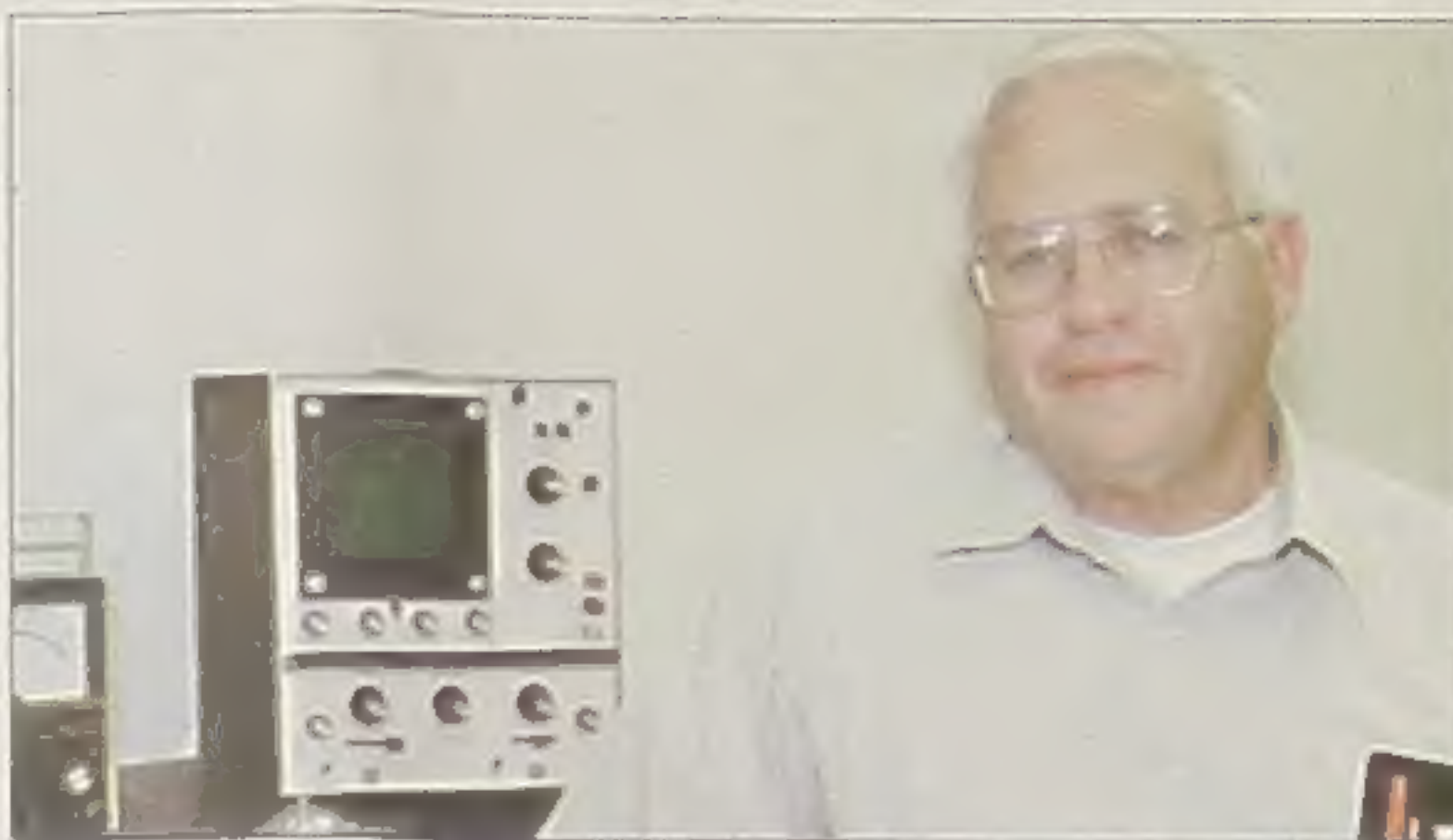
"I've also enjoyed the students here. They have been fun people to work with. I've been lucky to have had a job that I've enjoyed as much as I have. Not

many people have that luxury. "I will miss the intellectual stimulation. I don't know what I will do to replace that. I'll miss the students, watching them mature and get a degree and be successful. Every once in a while you get to talk to a graduate. It's an incredible high to see that they have been successful."

Steve Earney, assistant vice president for information services, said Kelley's ability to relate with students will be missed.

"He really dealt with students well," Earney said. "He was completely open to students. His door was always open, whether it was during office hours or not."

"He also is a really good teacher — a solid man. He is a fun, interesting man, and I'll definitely miss having him around." □



Dr. Russell Phillips, professor of physics, is retiring at the close of the summer term.

## Joplin area grew on Phillips

By ERIC GRUBER  
STAFF WRITER

After 28 years of service at Missouri Southern, one faculty member is at his wavelength's end.

Dr. Russell Phillips, professor of physics, is retiring at the end of the summer term. He received his bachelor's and doctorate degrees from Iowa State University and stayed there for three years as a research group leader and instructor. He's been at Southern ever since.

Phillips said his teaching experience has been something worthwhile and beneficial.

"There has been certainly a lot of rewarding situations," he said.

"I've enjoyed watching certain students succeed and what they've done after they've left here. It's been a pretty good experience."

Phillips said, at first, he didn't think his stay in this area would be anything elongated.

"I didn't think that Joplin, Mo., was my idea of a place to stay a long time," he said. "It turns out this community is a good place to raise kids, and we decided to stay here."

His philosophy of life is simple, revolving around his belief and faith in God, and a sense for "high morality."

"I certainly believe in God and in a good Christian community," Phillips said.

One of the things he will miss the most about teaching is the "good interaction"

with the students as well as his colleagues and his involvement with the academic community.

Although he hasn't formalized future plans just yet, he is certain some fishing is in the works.

"Maybe a couple of trips to Canada," Phillips said. "I'm going to do a lot of traveling in the states, spend a couple of weeks in Washington, D.C., take time, and not be on a tight schedule."

One colleague Phillips will miss is Marion Sloan, associate professor of physics. Phillips and Sloan shared the same space for 11 years until new offices were built a decade ago.

"I've probably been very fortunate to have an outstanding colleague like Marion Sloan," Phillips said. "He's been a tremendous asset."

Sloan said Southern has had many graduates who went through the engineering program come back to say Phillips had prepared them well for a university.

"I hate to see him go," Sloan said. "It's 30 years of experience down the tube. The man's done an excellent job."

Although his formal teaching career is coming to a close, Phillips plans to teach this summer and may return this fall to teach a little. But there's nothing certain yet. He might have wanted to try some other things in life, but definitely has no regrets when it comes to his choice to teach.

"I highly recommend it," Phillips said. □

FACULTY TRAVEL

## Gubera set for journey

### Trip to focus on history, current problems

By MICHAEL RASKA  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Dangers of a jungle and hot, humid weather will not stop one Missouri Southern instructor from his adventure to explore countries of Southeast Asia.

Dr. Conrad Gubera, professor of sociology, will take part in the Southeast Asia field study this summer.

"We will be traveling through Myanmar [Burma], Thailand, Cambodia, Indonesia, and Borneo July 1-30," he said. "Our focus will not only be the history of the ancient Asian civilizations and their arts and culture, but also contemporary problems."

The various field studies are created for 200 members associated with the Center who teach international courses at colleges throughout the United States.

Gubera, who will join 12 other members of the expedition in Hawaii, will fly first to Burma. The group will spend eight days travel-

ing through the country by bus and boat.

"In Burma, we will be interested in the Golden Triangle," Gubera said. "The Golden Triangle is an area in Southeast Asia where they produce the best heroin in the world."

Gubera's focus will be on authorities monitoring the flow of heroin and whether there are organized crime cartels. He wants to incorporate information gathered into criminology classes at Southern.

The group plans to stay eight days in Thailand and eight days in Cambodia.

The group will then proceed to Western Indonesia and spend the last 11 days traveling through different islands.

Students at Southern also have opportunities to go on field studies, said Richard Massa, director of the Institute of International Studies.

"We are sending students at the time," he said. "We support individuals to travel abroad for an academic credit and a learning experience." □

## I WILL SMITE THEE



Petr Theimer (left) defends himself from an attack by Jiri Zatko. The two were part of a demonstration put on outside Billingsly Student Center by A.R.G.O. (Ars Gladiatoria), a group from the Czech Republic.

GRADUATION

## College honors top graduates with 22nd annual honors convocation

By NICK PARKER  
MANAGING EDITOR

In ceremonious fashion, Missouri Southern honored some of its top graduates Wednesday at the 22nd annual honors convocation.

Fifty-six students were honored as outstanding graduates of their respective departments. Dr. Lanny Ackiss, honors program director, also paid tribute to the 14 gradu-

ates of the honors program.

The recipients of the Spencer-Bartlett Respect Awards were kept secret until the end of the convocation. Zak Kuhlmann, biology premed major, and Lynell Gilbert, chemistry, each received first-place honors while Autumn Ross, theatre, took home second place. Kuhlmann and Gilbert each received \$900 awards and Ross received \$500.

Derek Skaggs, director of enroll-

ment services and chair of the scholarship and performing aid committee, said nominees must meet particular criteria to be eligible for the award. The nominees must graduate in May, maintain a C average or better, and "have the greatest respect for God, country, and their fellow man."

"This is an outstanding award," Skaggs said. "I think sometimes it gets overlooked. It's quite an honor. It's not just for being a good

student but also for being an outstanding person."

Kuhlmann attributed the positive atmosphere on campus with his success at the College.

"The friends I've made here have been supportive, as well as the faculty," he said.

"The personal attention you receive here is great. Especially compared to the larger schools or even schools this size, where faculty are required to do research and

don't have time to deal with students."

Special awards of recognition were presented to Donna Nelson, the Missouri League for Nurses Award; Timothy Hansen, the Wall Street Journal Award; Deborah Cholley, the Greef Award; and Kali Walker, the National Business Education Association Award.

The 1998 Outstanding Graduate award was given to Neely Burkhart, biology major. □

## SOUTHERN NEWS BRIEFS

### Talley garners award for business ventures

Jason Talley, a senior mathematics major, has been named as the recipient of the Missouri Collegiate Entrepreneur Award.

The 21-year-old Joplin native was chosen for the award that honors the fostering of entrepreneurship among college students based on the foundation of his company Talley Technologies, the largest computer sales and service organization in southwest Missouri and northwest Arkansas. Talley recently acquired Entre Computer Center of Fayetteville, Ark., which was rated the 84th largest network integrator in North America.

The award, which has been given for the past 10 years, expanded to include Mexican students last year and will include Canadians in 1999.

The program is operated through the Jefferson Smurfit Center for Entrepreneurial Studies at the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

Talley's win puts him in the running to win the North American award, which has a \$3,000 prize attached to the title.

Talley, Southern's Student Senate parliamentarian, also supports the Rotary Club, the Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce, and the Big Brothers/Big Sisters campaign. □

### Special programs head nabs meritorious award

Dr. Elaine Freeman, associate professor and director of special programs at Missouri Southern, received one of six 1998 Meritorious Service Awards presented by Omicron Delta Kappa, the National Leadership Honor Society.

The awards were presented during the Society's recent national convention in Knoxville, Tenn. Freeman has served as chair of the major speakers sub-committee of the 1998 national convention committee.

She is faculty secretary for the Missouri Southern chapter and faculty province director, working closely with ODK circles at 18 colleges and universities in Arkansas, Kansas, Oklahoma, and Missouri. She has been a member of ODK since 1977.

ODK recognizes and encourages superior scholarship, leadership, and exemplary character for faculty and students.

The organization has circles on 235 campuses in 40 states and includes nearly 190,000 students, faculty, staff, and alumni members. □

### Southern honors program to introduce new members

Students invited to join Missouri Southern's honors program will be introduced during a formal signing ceremony at 11 a.m. today in the Connor Ballroom of the Billingsly Student Center.

The students' high school teachers, counselors, administrators, and family members have also been invited to attend the ceremony.

Entrance into the honors program is by invitation and requires a composite ACT score of 28 or above or a 3.5 or above grade-point average.

The program offers honors sections of general education courses and special honors courses in selected areas.

The students invited this year were selected from a pool of more than 150 applicants interviewed, a 10 percent increase over one year ago.

"The quality of the applicants is simply outstanding," said Dr. Lanny Ackiss, director of the honors program. □



## EDITOR'S COLUMN

## Memoirs of a chronic class skipper

This space is usually reserved for a sappy 'ta forever, but I don't think it's necessary. I believe nobody really gives a rat's ass.

I find myself indebted to only one person who worked countless hours for even less props than imaginable: Stat Boy Ned, you will be missed and cherished forever.

Back to the point.

What has been recognized as the best collegiate level non-daily newspaper in the country still amounts to barely more than birdcage liner in the eyes of most on this campus and community. The people who produce this are looked at with awe and envy by their peers around the nation, but to the locals we are just a bunch of chronic class-skipppers and liars.

What a shame it is that people outside our small community see something special and all anyone else around here sees is a sensationalistic rag with nothing of interest to them.

I try reflecting on the best years of my academic life at Missouri Southern and not one single event stands out as enjoyable outside *The Chart* office. Because of this newspaper I have a job, I've had several job offers, and I will likely never go without a job. The same goes for many who have been a part of this newspaper.

That's what it's all about contrary to what some former student senators might believe.

In the grand scheme of things, I will remember Southern not as an institution of high academic standards, but where the under-appreciated go unappreciated and it's accepted as the status quo.

Since the first Southern student newspaper was produced, it has always been a source of touting the achievements of the best and brightest at this College. We have also been there to sound an alarm of injustice and wrongdoing. For this we are often chastised and cursed.

I learned a long time ago someone could do some minute thing wrong and never hear the end of it, but in order to be praised that same person had to do something so superhuman that it couldn't go unnoticed.

It will never cease to amaze me how much on this campus passes for excellent work, but really is nothing more than mediocre. And what truly is supreme is looked down upon.

This campus needs a collective reality arena.

There is truth in this world. It is our job to print it.

The truth is we work for nothing, but the hope of it someday paying off. We work with outdated equipment that sometimes refuses to work. We work with students who are just trying to pass a class. And finally, we work 16 weeks every semester so we can have some jackass call in every Friday afternoon to point out the print job made his girlfriend's picture look like an angry elf.

I could point a finger at every single organization and department on this campus and tell you mistakes they've made, but it's pointless because criticism is life and we learn from living life.

Southern wrecks of hypocrisy, from the athletic department to the theatre department and all points in between.

Another year has ended, and I don't think anyone cares that we've repeated most of the national awards and added a few new ones. Maybe that's all the recognition we deserve. Anyway, in the immortal words of my adviser, "That's enough." □

J.L. Griffin  
Editor-in-Chief



## OUR EDITORIAL

Unsigned editorials on this page express the opinions of a majority of *The Chart* editors. Observations elsewhere on the page represent independent viewpoints of columnists, cartoonists, and readers.

## This year just went

Seniors all over campus can smell the end of the baccalaureate careers grind to a fine finish, and the glow of many resemble pregnant women in their second trimester.

Missouri Southern is close to the end of what can be best described as a rebuilding year.

In the athletic world, coaches like to refer to .500 seasons as rebuilding years. Southern, as a whole, may have had a better than .500 season, but it seemed for every up there was a down.

The resignation of football coach Jon Lantz after he slugged a player was acceptable, and basically the only option. Some would argue, however, that no player could have deserved it more than the one who was on the receiving end of that sucker punch. The player later was arrested for strong-arm robbery.

The College's Board of Regents accepted a plan that

would begin construction of a new athletic field house.

Meanwhile, the theatre department is still without a small stage since the destruction of the Barn Theatre. The theatre sells out every performance. Can the basketball teams say that?

The Harry and Berniece Gockel International Symposium and Missouri Southern International Piano Competition returned, but went almost completely ignored by the student body.

Parking is still a sore spot for many students, but it's still better than at most colleges and universities.

The only event which seemed to go without a downside was Campus Appreciation Week, which had almost everyone on campus thinking pink — or at least constantly reminded to do so.

Basically the year went off without any major hitches — or any major fireworks. This year just went. □

## On to greener pastures

With this issue of *The Chart* we bid farewell to four editors who have left indelible impressions on this newspaper. Jake Griffin, Tammy Spicer, Aileen Gronewold, and Kevin Coleman will be graduating and moving on to greener pastures, but their contributions will linger long after their talents have departed.

Jake, as editor of the St. Louis Community College-Florissant Valley newspaper, was recruited to come to Missouri Southern three years ago. He made only one stipulation, that he never be asked to serve as editor-in-chief of *The Chart*. That condition was agreed upon, and for the next two years J.L. held the positions of associate editor, State Capitol intern, and executive editor. When unforeseen circumstances dictated that he become editor-in-chief this year, he reluctantly agreed — not in his best interests personally, however it was in ours.

Editing *The Chart* means you sleep six nights a week instead of seven.

It means you work 60 or 70 hours a week but get paid for 10. It means days stretch from 24 hours to 48 (or sometimes 63.)

When it was decided last summer that *The Chart* would change printers and move into the world of color photography, Jake was again reluctant. "Wait one more year," he pleaded. To those not familiar with the newspaper production process, running half of your photos in color is akin to pulling teeth in the dark — risky and nerve-racking. Problems of insufficient computer memory, mastering a new scanning process and software, and training a relatively new staff plagued Jake throughout the year.

Tammy was also an editor-in-chief at the junior college level. She served as *The Chart's* State Capitol intern before ascending to the executive editor spot. Drawing on her military training, Tammy worked tirelessly to bring discipline to the paper's staff writers and editors. She demanded that stories

be written on Mondays and that half the newspaper's pages be completed Tuesdays.

Tammy also faced an important deadline herself: the impending birth of her first child. Just like Police Chief Marge Gunderson in the movie *Fargo*, she refused to allow any obstacle to stand in her way. Perhaps Tammy's biggest feat was convincing reporters and editors that deadlines could be met.

Tammy and Aileen, who can each boast of a 4.0 GPA, proved that it is possible to work long hours on *The Chart* and still make good grades. Tammy was honored Wednesday as the outstanding graduate in mass communications, Aileen as the outstanding graduate in English. They are featured elsewhere in this issue as two of the College's top 25 graduating seniors.

Aileen's flair for writing and editing will be missed, as will her grace and quiet determination. She exuded class and patience in every situation, even the most stressful ones. And her mere presence on *The Chart* staff boosted the paper's credibility in some circles.

Kevin's story is a near miracle in itself. In 1978, at the age of 21, he was injured in a motor vehicle accident that resulted in quadriplegia. Kevin earned his GED in March 1993 and came to Missouri Southern that fall. Since joining *The Chart* staff in 1995, Kevin has held the positions of staff writer, assistant arts editor, arts editor, and associate editor.

Despite the near-fatal blow that life dealt him 20 years ago, Kevin has never complained. He looks for opportunity in every situation, preferring not to dwell on the adverse. Kevin's quiet sense of humor became a necessity in the oft-chaotic *Chart* office. With a quick joke he was able to quickly dispel many tense situations.

All of us on the staff would like to offer a heartfelt good-bye and good luck to Kevin, Aileen, Tammy, and Jake. The impact each of you have made on this paper will be felt for quite some time. From *The Chart* Staff, thank you. □

## EDITOR'S COLUMN

## Office meets Maslow's basic needs

I am now in possession of four treasured tickets to the afternoon graduation ceremony. Holding those tickets in my hand began to give the upcoming event substance. Until now, it has been easy to get caught up in classes and family and forget that life as I have known it is about to come to a screeching halt.

Much of my existence has centered around the Missouri Southern campus, more specifically Webster Hall, and to narrow it down even more, the third floor. Located there is the lair of *The Chart* staff.

While my home life has certainly been taxed, my basic needs have been met within the walls of *The Chart* office.

According to Dr. Abraham Maslow, we all have needs that must be attended to in a certain order: physiological, safety and security, social, ego, and self-actualization.

Physiological needs are the basics needed to sustain life: food, water, air, and shelter.

*The Chart* office has at least tried to fill this role with pizza on late-night work sessions, week-old soda that has lost its fizz, and a climate-controlled environment (too bad it is the climate of Addis Ababa).

The next step in Maslow's hierarchy of needs is safety and security, which he describes as protection, order, and stability. About the only stability around *The Chart* is the fact that writers (and editors) will miss deadlines. While our fearless leader, Dr. Stebbins, strives to maintain order, oftentimes it loses out to those missed deadlines.

As far as protection goes, who doesn't feel safe knowing the Southern security team is on duty?

Perhaps the need filled the best by my involvement in *The Chart* is the social need. I have made several life-long friends among the motley crew who manage to put out the paper. I haven't been hanging around the office lately due to the birth of the most beautiful baby in the world, Morgan, and I am already missing the office personalities. Ginny's constant encouragement, Aileen's strength of character, Jake's cynical humor, Nick's enthusiasm toward his classes, Heather's generous nature, Kiki's sense of style, and Jeff's work ethic made the long hours and late nights go by much faster.

Being part of such a successful newspaper has gone a long way toward fulfilling my ego needs. I still consider myself blessed to have fallen in with such a talented staff. It is hard to imagine that *The Chart* at little ole Southern has such statewide and national acclaim.

While I haven't quite reached the lofty goal of self-actualization, I don't feel too bad because according to Dr. Moorman, not many people do.

But now the time has come for me to leave the protective shelter of Missouri Southern and venture out into the real world.

One of the things I am really looking forward to as a non-student is the concept of reading for pleasure. For the longest time, I have felt like a huge cheater while I flip through the pages of *Redbook*.

No matter what the cradle of humanity has in store for me, I believe my time here at Southern has helped me prepare. I can now handle following directions, taking charge, and of course, small group work. □



Tammy Spicer  
Executive Editor

THE CHART

SPJ — The Nation's Best Non-Daily Collegiate Newspaper (1995, 1996)

ACP National Pacemaker (1997)

ACP Pacemaker Finalist (1982, 1986, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1994, 1997)

MCMA — "Best in State" (1993-94, 1996-97, 1997-98)

The Chart, the newspaper of Missouri Southern State College, is published weekly, except during holidays and examination periods, from August through May, by students in communications as a laboratory experience. Views expressed do not represent the opinions of the administration, faculty, or the student body.

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Kevin Coleman Associate Editor

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ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION

# Trike 'makes you feel free as a bird'

By KEVIN COLEMAN  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Freedom is one way to describe the ride trike enthusiasts get from their vehicles and the Jefferys are hoping to extend that ride to Sturgis this year.

Don Jeffery enjoys riding and showing off his purple-metalflake custom-built trike.

"Freedom of the Road Riders will have a show, and I'll be in it," he said. "Or BTW (Brotherhood of the Third Wheel) has some shows. Every year they have the Love Ride, and we're involved in that. Then, we go out to Hog's Rest with the Loners, and they'll give me some shows out there. Just anywhere a show is, I like to go." The trike is big enough to seat Jeffery and his wife, Diane, comfortably.

"Mine is a three seater," he said. "I can get two people — thin people — in the back, and myself in the front-driver's seat."

"We do have one seater, too. We build the frames, and order the bodies from out of state." Besides the frames, which are made of 2x2 and 1/4 inch square tubing, Jeffery and his partners do the electrical work, rebuild, and install the 1,600 cc Volkswagen engines, brakes, and wheel cylinders, and put everything together. The bodies are fiberglass and come in the rider's choice of styles and colors.

"We use motorcycle front ends on them, unless we can get hold of a springer or girder," Jeffery said. "If



Don Jeffery enjoys riding and showing off his purple metalflake custom-built trike. Jeffery sells the basic trikes he assembles for \$4,500 to \$4,900. The more expensive rides, like Jeffery's, retail for \$14,000, but he sells them for \$8,900. Jeffery's wife owns Outsiders & Renegades.

we do, we'll use them, but usually we just use straight motorcycle front ends."

Volkswagen transaxes, both standard and automatic, adapted for Chevrolet magnesium wheels, are used to complete the drive train. Every engine is rebuilt using stock parts; it's not necessary to up their performance.

"We just put stock engines in them," Jeffery said. "It's hard enough to keep them on the ground with that."

The trikes have foot brakes, all clutches and handlebars, and he believes the trikes are easy to handle.

"It handles just like a car," Jeffery said. "The only thing is, you have a better turning radius than a car. They're not too heavy; you can't flip them over, as far as I know, unless you're trying to tow them by one handlebar."

Diane Jeffery, owner/operator of the Outsiders & Renegades gift shop, sometimes likes riding the

trike better than driving her car. "It gives you a sense of freedom," she said. "If you're under a lot of stress, it relieves stress, and it makes you feel free as a bird."

"The three-wheelers are sometimes good for people with disabilities. You don't have to hold them up yourself like a regular motorcycle, and the automatic transaxle is good for people who have trouble using a clutch, because of bad knees. Don has bad knees, and he prefers an automatic because he

can drive it just like a car."

Don Jeffery sells the trikes at an affordable price. An assembled trike with a stock engine and standard transaxle sells for \$4,500, or one with an automatic transaxle for \$4,900.

"Or, the ultimate, like the one I ride, lists for right at \$14,000, but we sell them for \$8,900," he said. The Jefferys are planning their first trip to Sturgis, S.D., in August, but Diane Jeffery doesn't know if they'll actually make it. □

GO-KART RACING



Brant Woods, 16, and Zack Lawrence, 18, both of Lamar, race around the go-kart track at Excalibur. The facility also offers golf and ping pong.

## Excalibur provides outlet for racing fun

By HEATHER OWENS  
STAFF WRITER

Miniature golf, go-karts, ping pong, basketball, and pool are just some of the entertainment available at this Joplin facility.

The Excalibur, at 2915 S. Range Line, is a family-oriented establishment, said Ralph Frizzle, owner.

It is available for private parties and such events as Project Graduation parties, birthday parties, and lock-ins.

"We had my class reunion here, and everyone had a great time," Frizzle said. "We went back to the past playing the same things we used to."

A dance night is offered for children ages 13 and under on Friday and Saturday nights, but the rest of the facility is open for anyone, he said.

"When we first purchased it, my family and I were going to call it the 'Good Times Warehouse' because it looks like a warehouse," Frizzle said. "But, as I was cleaning the sink, I saw the brand name and said, 'Here's our name, the Excalibur.'"

A restaurant has recently opened inside the Excalibur called El Cielito Lindo, which means Beautiful Sky. It offers authentic Mexican and American foods. The Excalibur hosts a lock-in every New Year's Eve.

"We had over 300 kids last New Year's Eve," Frizzle said. "Parents loved it because they could go to

Parents wanted a safer environment for their kids. This is a good atmosphere for kids and it gets them off the street.

Nick Ybarra  
Excalibur employee

their party and leave their kids here."

Frizzle said he wanted to provide a safe and fun environment for the children, and this prevented parents from driving their children home under the influence of alcohol.

"Parents wanted a safer environment for their kids," said Nick Ybarra, employee. "This is a good atmosphere for kids, and it gets them off the street."

Ybarra performs a variety of jobs at the Excalibur. He runs go-karts, chaperones dances, and is often a DJ for private parties and dance nights.

He said working with go-karts is a hobby for him, and he has put his go-karts in several parades, such as Joplin's Christmas parade and the Maple Leaf parade in Carthage. □

ENGINEERING



Missouri Southern's entry into the Society of Automotive Engineers Aerodesign Competition in Long Beach, California, was constructed by Caleb Browning, Jonathan Shull, Chris Baker, and Matt Kissel.

## Students compete with original design

By JOE ECKHOFF  
STAFF WRITER

Three Missouri Southern students will be the first from the College to compete in flying remote control planes when they travel to the Society of Automotive Engineers Aerodesign Competition in Long Beach, California, June 5 through 7.

Caleb Browning, Jonathan Shull, Chris Baker, and Matt Kissel combined their efforts for the competition.

Browning, a junior physics major, said pilots will be judged in an assortment of events.

"The competition includes a written report, the design and build of an airplane, and maybe the most important, which can lift the most weight," he said.

There has been a lot of time and effort spent on this competition. The group had to design and build two different planes to prepare for the event.

"We started a little over a year ago," Browning said. "The first plane, we built to learn what we would need to look more closely at with the second one."

Their cargo plane design uses foam insulation, instead of the traditional balsa wood, as its primary construction material. The foam form is covered with epoxy and nylon cloth, making it comparable in the balsa in weight, but stronger, and capable of lifting more weight.

"There are about 25 major universities entered in the competition including the University of Akron, Ohio, last years winner, three Canadian colleges, and one from Warsaw, Poland," he said.

Southern and the University of Missouri at

Rolla, are the only two Missouri schools entered.

No matter what place the three receive, Browning is glad they were fortunate enough to have this opportunity.

"We are happy to get the chance to represent Southern for the first time, and it is really hard to say what our chances are, but we would like to be competitive," he said. "We don't really expect to win in our first competition."

Shull said Preparing has been a great learning experience, and they will give everything they have in this competition to represent Southern well.

"We feel obligated to the school, because they gave us the money to go there, so we are going to do our best," he said.

The students have received help with funding from the college on three different occasions. Last year a \$750 grant from the student research committee enabled them to acquire materials for their first plane; \$575 from student senate earlier this semester, got the second plane off the ground; and a third grant from the student research committee gives them about \$300 apiece to cover their expenses for attending the competition.

"It is a good honor, and a good opportunity to see some other schools," said Baker, who sees many advantages for his future by competing in this event.

"It is going to help working with people on the project, because engineers don't just do homework," he said.

"It will benefit us working and dealing with people. I have learned a lot, and my advice to the people who do this next year is work hard, and give it your best." □

## Nuts & Bolts

### Cars mark milestones

Every family marks time by certain milestone events. For instance, most families have a distinct B.C. period — "before children." Ours is no exception, but we also trace our history by the parade of cars that have rolled through our garage.

At the tender age of 16, I fell in love with a "car

guy." I was the coolest girl in high school when he pulled up to the curb in his 1949 Ford woody, and life was good. (Hint: even in 1976, that was a classic car.)

We dated for almost two years, through a succession of VW bugs, a 1928 Buick sedan, a 1936 Plymouth coupe, and the old standby, the woody.

Now, no one warned me about the realities of life with a car guy, and by this time I was hooked. A few months after we were married, I began to sense what it was going to take to keep his attention. He was engrossed in a major restoration of the woody, and I convinced him to let me help.

Three days later, we had negotiated a division of labor. He works on cars; I do not. It remains a satisfying compromise to this day.

Following the sale of the woody, we were the proud owners of a series of pre-World War II cars. Well, he was proud anyway.

One of my favorites was the 1929 Model A coupe, and we ended up with three of them. We enjoyed sporting around in them for short (very short) jaunts.

One of his best buys was the purchase of two Model T touring cars, a 1921 and a 1927, in good original condition. Fascinating, but not much good for jaunting.

There followed a 1936 Chevy Suburban and a 1934 Dodge coupe (cool, with suicide doors) and a 1929 Pierce Arrow roadster.

My personal favorite was a black and red 1932 American Austin roadster, possibly the cutest car in the world. We had three children by this time (and nine foster children), and Roger drove it in a Christmas parade with all our little munchkins dressed up like elves. Ahhhh.

From there we moved into the 50s and 60s era, with brief appearances by a 1955 Cameo pickup (the pickup cousin of the Corvette), and a less-than-beautiful 1955 Chevy Nomad.

Also in the less-than-beautiful category was a 1956 Corvette that barely qualified as a car. As it turns out, however, the chassis was from a 1953 car, one of only 300 made, and Roger sold the bare chassis for \$4,000. The rest of the car, in a basket, went for \$9,000. Never say junk.

We occasionally owned cars that moved under their own power. Some of the most fun were the Sunbeam Tigers, English sports cars designed by Shelby with an 8-cylinder Ford engine. Fast. We had three.

We've also had about eight BMW Isettas, those weird little one-door cars with a one-cylinder engine like Steve Eckel drove on the TV show "Family Matters."

Twenty years have gone by and we have one lonely Isetta awaiting restoration in the garage. Roger's cars are gone, but I'm still here. Life is good. □



Aileen Gronewold  
Associate Editor



# Group travels to see Kavandi blast off

## Excursion planned for shuttle launch

By JEFF BILLINGTON  
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Just like a page out of Jules Verne's *From the Earth to the Moon*, Missouri Southern alumna Janet Kavandi will have the chance to break the atmospheric confines of Earth.

When she makes a monumental journey aboard the space shuttle at 6:04 p.m. on Tuesday, June 2 at the Kennedy Space Center in Cape Kennedy, Fla., a group of Southern students, alumni, and friends of the College will be there to cheer her on.

Lee Elliff Pound, director of alumni affairs, said the trip has been in the works for several months.

"Rod Surber (Southern news bureau manager) actually came up with the idea," she said. "He contacted me in December and said

"Hey, wouldn't this be a good idea," so we started working on it right away and we've worked on it ever since."

Pound said the group will leave on Sunday, May 31 and return on Saturday, June 6. The trip originally was scheduled for May 25-30, but the May 28 launch date of the shuttle was delayed.

Pound said with the scheduling change, all but eight of the people going were able to reschedule for the new dates. As it stands, 54 people will be going from Missouri Southern.

"It's a good equal mixture of alums, friends of the College, and current students," she said.

Christopher Guillory, senior general studies major, is one student making the trip.

"I'm excited about going down and seeing Janet Kavandi, because she is a real person who graduated from here," he said. "So, I think it is a good opportunity."

Guillory, who works in the alumni

office, has planned to go since he first heard about the trip.

"I've been trying to snag it so I could participate," he said.

Pound said Kavandi has been helpful in all the fuss that has surrounded the changing of the dates and the set-up of reservations.

"I've talked with her several times on the phone and she's been very nice. I mean, she's very busy getting ready to go up into space, but she's taking the time out to call us to tell us when the shuttle's leaving."

Pound said Kavandi will be taking a Missouri Southern flag into space with her. Kavandi will then bring the space-baptized flag back to the College.

"She's going to be the grand marshal for the Maple Leaf parade in October, and that's the week before Homecoming, and I believe we will actually be able to have her return to campus and present it to Dr. [Julio] Leon," Pound said.

The trip will not just end with the

shuttle launch; it will include other activities as well.

"They're going to go through Chattanooga and then they're going to stay at a historic hotel," Pound said. "Then on day two they will end up in Coco Beach, Fla., where we will stay on the beach for three days."

She said KGCS-LP will also be making the journey to the launch.

"There will be a student from MSTV, Robin Douglas (special projects producer for KGCS) will be going, and Chris Guillory will be going," Pound said. "The three of them will be putting together a video for the station."

Pound said she has already received one of the two passes required for close viewing of the launch.

"This pass gets you within one mile of the launch," she said. "I guess it doesn't sound very close, but I guess it is when you consider the flames and the heat."

Pound said when the dates were

“It's a good equal mixture of alums, friends of the College, and current students.”

Lee Elliff Pound  
Director of Alumni Affairs

rearranged, her office made a scheduling adjustment so if the launch is a day late the group won't have to miss it.

"What we did in addition to rearranging the dates was we flipped our dates in Florida," she said. "The second day is the free day when they can go to Disney or whatever, so if the launch is late, we have a day to wait."

## EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

# In our own words

## Authors of all ages attend Young Author's Conference

By BRIN CAVAN  
STAFF WRITER

Psychics and T-Rex and bears — Oh my!

All were represented, along with 49 area schools, as 590 elementary students assembled Saturday at Missouri Southern for the 10th annual Young Author's Conference.

This event is presented by the teacher education department, with Dr. Jane Anderson Scholl, assistant professor of education, as coordinator, and Karen Bigby, assistant coordinator. A steering committee consisting of teachers who are International Reading Association members spend a year selecting authors and planning this event. Southern education majors serve as group leaders and the young authors from one event to another.

"They get to talk and ask questions and learn what it's like to be a real writer and get published," said Janis Compton, sophomore elementary education major. "Mostly, it is to give recognition and to encourage writing in the young students."

The children displayed their published work and met children's authors Ben Mikaelson and Cheryl Harness and cartoonist Nic Frising.

Harness, of Independence, Mo., wrote *Three Young Pilgrims* and *Ghosts of the White House*, fiction works with a large dose of historically accurate information. She also creates the detailed pictorials as illustrations for her own books and others.

Harness described her book *Young John Quincy*.

"People think that [history] is tedious," she said. "There was a price on John Adams' head at the time of young John Quincy. If the king's soldiers would have caught him, they would have taken him back to England, cut him up in little pieces,

and then killed him. They were pledging their sacred honor to go and create something totally brand new. That's powerful. That's not just a stupid date and place then."

Mikaelson is an adventure science fiction writer living in Bozeman, Mont., with his wife and "editor," Buffy. The editor sometimes chews up and spits out whole pages of work — literally. Buffy is a 15-year-old black bear the couple raised from a cub.

Mikaelson has won numerous awards for his writing, including the International Reading Association Award for *Rescue Josh McGuire* and The California Young Reader's Medal for both *Rescue* and *Sparrow Hawk Red*.

Illustrator and cartoonist Frising is associated with Sparkle Graphics in Joplin. Well-known for his caricatures, he participates in the conference every year.

A crowd of third graders from Noel Elementary in McDonald County couldn't wait to show off their talent. Their books ranged from science to science fiction, with Amber Poole's *The Solar System* to Andrea Johnson's psychic experience in *The Mystery of the Shrunken Room*.

Sara Carr wrote *The Attack of the T-Rex*, and Courtney Bifulco penned *The Crazy Day*. Susana Ramos authored *The Talking Plant*, while Amanda Dela Hoya engaged in wishful thinking when she wrote *The School is Gone*.

In his speech, Mikaelson encouraged the students to be unique, telling them they need only "imagination, experience, and research."

"Don't try to write like anybody else," he said. "Write what's inside you. Don't ever be afraid of being different."

The program concluded as the young students received individual awards for their published work at the recognition ceremony in Taylor Auditorium.

## ACEI



SUSAN NEUFELD/Special to The Chariot

Southern's Association of Childhood Education International attended a conference in Tampa, Fla. to learn skills and procedures in helping to teach elementary children.

# Journey spawns insights

## Group trip to Florida inspires creative ideas

By JALYN HIGGINS  
STAFF WRITER

The teacher education department at Missouri Southern offers many opportunities for students to further their education.

Eleven Missouri Southern early childhood education majors and one Missouri Southern graduate left Joplin on April 15 for Tampa, Fla., under the supervision of Dr. Susan Neufeld, assistant professor of education and faculty adviser of the Association of Childhood Education International (ACEI), to attend the annual international conference.

"I think the opportunity for students to interact with other students and professionals from around the country is good," Neufeld said.

The conference consisted of many educational sessions for the students to choose from including a Polaroid Workshop, Student Make and Take project, and leadership training.

Brandi Ensor, senior early childhood education major, said during the Polaroid workshop students were given a Polaroid camera and film and were taught how to use pictures in classrooms as educational devices.

Ensor also attended the Student Make and Take workshop, where she was taught how to teach children art projects.

"It was probably the coolest one I went to because it was hands-on," Ensor said.

Speakers from such places as the United States, Finland, Hungary, and Hong Kong spoke to the attendees.

Gloria Houston, author of such children's

“I think the opportunity for students to interact with other students and professionals from around the country is good.”

Dr. Susan Neufeld  
Assistant Professor of Childhood Education

stories as *My Great Aunt Arizona* and *In the Year of the Perfect Christmas Tree*, presented slides and spoke about the successes and failures of her books and held an autograph session.

For the closing session, Sharon Draper, 1997 national teacher of the year, spoke to the group of students.

"It was a very encouraging and inspirational speech about what we do as educators and how it's important," Neufeld said.

Students had the opportunity to tour different exhibits and a Hall of Excellence while in Florida. A visit to the Florida Aquarium was also on the schedule of events.

"I got to pet a shark," Ensor said.

"We had a nice chance to tour the aquarium," Neufeld said.

On April 16, the festivities came to an end as most of the students reached Joplin around 2:30 a.m., only to begin another week of classes.

# CAMPUS CALENDAR

If your organization has an event you would like publicized, call Jeff Billington at 625-9311.

## Today 8

11 a.m.—  
Honors signing ceremony, BSC, Connor ballroom

## Saturday 9

1 p.m.—  
Suzuki Violin Academy Spring Recitals, Webster Hall auditorium

## Sunday 10

2 p.m.—  
Senior art exhibit opening reception, Spiva Art Gallery

## Monday 11

6:30 p.m.—  
College Heights Banquet, BSC, Connor ballroom

## Tuesday 12

8:30 p.m.—  
Respiratory therapy test, BSC, Room 306  
9 a.m.—  
Morning Mass, BSC, Room 306  
10:30 a.m.—  
Human Resources Management, free ice cream, front campus  
4 p.m.—  
School of ballet demonstration, Taylor auditorium

## Wednesday 13

Last day of classes  
Free movie night at Mall and former Sears plaza theaters  
11:30 a.m.—  
Nursing advisory board, BSC, Room 313  
Noon—  
Culturally Speaking, BSC, Room 306  
9 p.m.—  
Wesley Foundation Midweek Worship

## Thursday 14

8:30 a.m.—  
Medical records test, BSC, Room 313  
2 p.m.—  
Retiring faculty reception, BSC, 2nd floor lounge  
6:30 p.m.—  
Phi Delta Kappa dinner, BSC, Room 310  
7 p.m.—  
Last Seinfeld party, Student Life Center



Howlin' Maggie will be performing at 7 p.m. Friday, May 15 in Taylor Auditorium with special guests Michyckaseal and Carbon Star. Admission is \$5 for students and \$8 for the general public.



# Quirky quartet calls it quits next week

Show finds successful niche with mantra of 'no hugging, no learning'

By AILEEN GRONEWOLD  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

It's the end of the road, the end of an era, the end of some very special friendships. No, it's not graduation, it's the final episode of "Seinfeld," set to air on Thursday, May 14.

In nine seasons, the show about nothing has garnered a cult-like following, and many will be in mourning next week.

Aaron and Rachel Vogel, both criminal justice majors, are among the "Seinfeld" junkies on campus.

"We tape it so we never have to miss it," Aaron said.

The Vogels attribute the show's popularity to its upbeat style and inane subject matter.

"It pokes fun at life," Aaron said. "With

four very different characters and four plots going on at the same time, it moves very quickly."

The Vogels couldn't agree on a favorite episode, but "The Contest" ranks close to the top for them.

Kathleen Latlip, senior communications major, also ranks among the "Seinfeld" junkies.

"I'm sad, because it's one of the funniest shows I've ever seen," she said. "They discuss things that everyone goes through but people usually don't talk about. They emphasize the bizarre."

Latlip said Elaine and George are her favorite characters, and she believes "Ellen" is one of the few shows that was on a par with "Seinfeld."

"They both had the same type of witty humor," she said.

Ann Merrill, junior English major, can't

imagine any show taking the place of "Seinfeld."

"I think it will be like 'M\*A\*S\*H,'" she said. "It's a unique show that will continue to have its following."

None of the students polled for this article would venture a guess as to the content of the final episode.

According to *Newsweek* magazine, only a select few were allowed to watch the taping of the grand finale, and they each had to sign a confidentiality agreement promising not to reveal any of the content.

*Newsweek* did refute some rampant rumors: the cast doesn't move to L.A.; they don't drive off a cliff; Jerry doesn't get a variety show; and George doesn't become a TV critic.

They also divulged that the episode is very funny, a "real crowd pleaser." It will bring back several special guests from previous episodes, but the plot won't be divided into the usual four story lines.

In spite of the national hoopla, "Seinfeld"

doesn't have the lion's share of the local market.

According to Wyrsh and Associates, the show barely made it in the top 100 shows in this area in the February Nielsen ratings, falling considerably short of "Walker, Texas Ranger" and its direct competitor, "Diagnosis Murder," in the over-18 age bracket.

Advertisers who are paying \$2 million for a 30-second spot in the historic episode hope to lure some of the less-fanatic viewers for the occasion.

As it happens, the final episode of "Seinfeld" falls on "reading day" at Missouri Southern, and the Campus Activities Board has organized a party at the Student Life Center to celebrate both events.

The party begins at 7 p.m. with a collective "Seinfeld" viewing experience, followed by free pizza, a pool tournament, and drawings for free prizes, ending at 1 a.m. Reality returns with finals the next day. Yada, yada, yada. □



## COMMENTARY

### Ehrenreich proposes feminine theory of war

Claiming to refute much of the work of her predecessors, Barbara Ehrenreich borrows heavily from previous theories in forming a uniquely feminine, if not completely credible, perspective of the origin of humanity's fixation on war in her new book *Blood Rites: Origins and History of the Passions of War*.

"It makes no difference what men think of war....War endures. As well ask men what they think of stone. War was always here. Before man was, war waited for him. The ultimate trade awaiting the ultimate practitioner," Cormac McCarthy wrote in the 1985 *Blood Meridian*.

Ehrenreich takes the opposite approach in her study of war's origin, comparing the current understanding of war's genesis to that of medical expertise during the Enlightenment, and emphasizing the importance of improving humanity's understanding of the subject.

Ehrenreich traces the causes of a socially sanctioned, industrialized group combat to the first emergence of modern man.

Drawing from the Darwinian principle of the human improvement from a "comparatively weak creature" to that of "the most dominant animal" on the planet, Ehrenreich concludes humanity's "war gene" is the evolutionary product of the hominid's predation by larger carnivores rather than the widely held belief that war developed from humanity's hunting dominance over other species.

According to Ehrenreich, "If we seek an 'original trauma' that shaped the human response to violence, we have no need to postulate some primal guilt over hunting and killing. The original

trauma...was the trauma of being hunted by animals, and eaten.

"Here, most likely, lies the source of our human habit of sacralizing violence: in the terror inspired by the devouring beast and in the powerful emotions, associated with courage and altruism, that were required for group defense."

Ehrenreich provides detailed and valid support for her conclusions, but, in going to great lengths to disprove previous explanations, strikes an inadvertent blow to the credibility of her own.

In dispelling theories of war's origin ranging from Carl von Clausewitz's theorized mercantilistic conception (war is simply a "continuation of policy...by other means") through the surging nationalism of World War I, to the psychology of the 1970s' "aggressive instinct" explanation, Ehrenreich targets the basic premises of their conclusions.

Ehrenreich refutes the mercantilism and "aggressive instinct" theories with circular logic. She downplays mercantilism as a primary influence in the human's fixation with war, saying: "...wars are designed, at least ostensibly, to secure necessities like land or oil or geopolitical advantage." The mystery lies in the peculiar psychological grip war exerts on us."

Ehrenreich then inverts her argument to refute aggressive instinct, saying: "Wars are not barroom brawls writ large, or domestic violence that has been somehow extended to strangers...There is no plausible instinct, for example, that impels a man to leave his home, cut his hair short, and drill for hours in tight formation."

By concluding such, Ehrenreich leaves her predation hypothesis open to the same reasoning for refutation.

Resisting an aggressor species could certainly fall under the guise of advancing collective interests and improving the quality of life by the preservation of it.

Also, self-preservation is at the core of the human's instinctive behavior. To argue against aggression as the cause of war because of its instinctive origin would seem in place predation is an inescapable catch-22. □



Aaron Deslatte  
Associate Editor

## RED OAK II



Dr. Brad Kleindl, assistant professor of business, enjoys pottery as an artistic release. Samples of Kleindl's artwork will be on display at Art Central in Carthage, May 8-28.

TIM WILSON/The Chari

### Kleindl throws pots for fun

By MARLA HINKLE  
STAFF WRITER

In addition to teaching marketing courses, Dr. Brad Kleindl, assistant professor of business, enjoys devoting time to his art.

"Art is a creative release," he said. "When I am teaching business courses, I deal with fairly concrete areas in contrast to art, which lets me work with form, texture, emotions, and other visual aspects."

An exhibit showcasing some of Kleindl's pottery, including his grass pots, Aegean urns, planetary system, and Zen temple pots will be held May 8-28 at Art Central, located at Red Oak II in Carthage.

A reception in honor of the artist will be held from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. today at The Geranium House at Red Oak II. The reception is open to the public and refreshments will be served afterwards.

Jon Fowler, professor of art, is looking forward to the artist's reception.

"I remember Brad auditing some art classes and he always had unique pieces," he said. "I can't wait to see his pottery."

First interested in art when he began college in 1974, Kleindl majored in marketing and minored in art and philosophy. He said he has been strongly influenced by

traditional Japanese pottery styles.

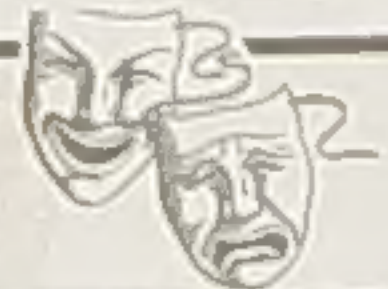
"My pottery reflects man's relationship with nature by using simple forms," Kleindl said. "Japanese pottery masters do not try for perfection; instead, they produce a form which is pleasing to the eye. I attempt to follow this philosophy by developing pots which have classical forms. The closer a pot gets to natural forms, the more pleasing it is to the eye."

Kleindl said Japanese temple pots incorporate the elements of pottery with the soothing curves of Japanese temples. While many of the pots may appear utilitarian, they are designed to be more visually pleasing than functional.

"If they carry anything at all, they are designed to carry a sense of familiarity or atonement to the soul of the viewer," he said.

Kleindl decided to become a marketing instructor instead of a professional artist because he thought he could make more money that way and still do art on the side. Creativity is also important in marketing and business classes, Kleindl said.

"Creativity is a vital component, not only for art majors, but for all academic areas," he said. "Business majors in particular should think about taking more art classes to enhance their creativity." □



## COMING ATTRACTIONS

On Campus	WEBSTER AUDITORIUM	Joplin	CHAMPS	Kansas City	St. Louis
<b>TAYLOR AUDITORIUM</b> May 7—MSSC Concert Chorale, 7:30 p.m. May 15—Howlin' Maggie concert, 7 p.m. May 23—Commencement exercises, 9:30 a.m. and noon	May 9—Missouri Southern Suzuki Violin Academy Spring Recitals, 1 p.m. May 15—Missouri Southern Suzuki Violin Academy Play-In/Awards Ceremony, 7 p.m.	<b>THE BYPASS</b> 624-9095 May 15—Sky Bop Fly May 16—Live Comedy May 22—Smokin' Joe Kubeck May 30—Howard Morgan, hypnotist	782-4944 May 8—First Impressions May 9—Raisin' Kane May 15—The Websters May 22—Pat Webb May 23—Comfortable Shoes	<b>KEMPER ARENA</b> June 6—Robert Plant and Jimmy Page  <b>SANDSTONE AMPHITHEATRE</b> June 19—Michael Bolton with Wynonna June 20—Chicago June 27—James Taylor	<b>KIEL CENTER</b> June 7—Robert Plant and Jimmy Page  <b>RIVERPORT AMPHITHEATRE</b> May 31—Dave Matthews Band June 26—James Taylor July 2—Pearl Jam July 28—Metallica Aug. 16—Leann Rimes and Bryan White
<b>PHINNEY HALL</b> May 14—MSSC Choral Society Concert, 7:30 p.m.	<b>SPIVA ART GALLERY ON CAMPUS</b> May 10—Senior art exhibit opening reception, 2-5 p.m. Exhibits also open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.	<b>SPIVA CENTER FOR THE ARTS</b> May 11—June 28—Joe Beeler exhibit, western art and sculpture	<b>STONE'S THROW COMMUNITY THEATRE</b> May 7-9 and 14-17—"Cahoots," directed by Henry Heckert		

■ Joplin native Joe Beeler, western artist and sculptor, will exhibit his work at Spiva Center for the Arts from May 15 through June 28.





## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### Mission, ministry vice president receives honor

Terry Wachter, vice president of mission and ministry at St. John's Regional Medical Center, recently received the Joplin Citizen of the Year Award at the Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce's annual banquet.

Wachter has been a key community leader in civic and business organizations serving the four-state area since she joined St. John's in 1981.

She was recognized for her work in the area of health care, both at St. John's and in the Joplin area.

She chaired Vision Health (part of Vision Joplin), which led to the development of the City of Joplin Free Clinic and Operation Community Health, a Saturday health and wellness screening program offered monthly in the public.

She served on the founding board of the Joplin Community Free Clinic, and is also active in the Joplin United Way, the Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce, the Joplin Area Catholic School System, St. Mary's Catholic Church, and other community groups.

At St. John's, she has been a key figure in developing and/or coordinating numerous programs and committees, including the Domestic Violence Task Force, the Mission Effectiveness Committee, the Business/Education Partnership, St. John's MedMobile, the Centennial Celebration, St. John's Ethics Committee, and the Childhood Immunization Program (Smart Start). □

### Out-of town specialists team up, form clinic

Cardiac specialists from Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis have joined with Freeman Health System cardiologists to offer an electrophysiology and congestive heart failure clinic at Freeman Health System.

The clinic, held in Freeman the second Thursday of every month, offers patients access to screenings and follow-up care that were previously unavailable in the region.

These tertiary care services are typically available only in large urban areas.

The next clinic will be held Thursday.

As cardiac care continues to become more advanced, the field requires increased specialization.

"There are certain conditions that require a higher degree of specialization, and we can now address these problems right here in Joplin," said Dr. David Zuehlke, Freeman cardiologist.

"This is a community project designed to benefit affected patients in the area," said Bob Deardorff, director of cardiovascular services at Freeman.

"All area physicians are welcome to refer their patients to the clinic.

The service is not limited to Freeman physicians." □

### St. John's Hospital offers training in CPR classes

Recognizing a need for cardiopulmonary (CPR) training in the four-state area,

St. John's Regional Medical Center is now offering a class in CPR designed to train lay people. Two types of classes will be offered: Heartsaver and Pediatric Basic Life Support (PBLIS).

Class dates for Heartsavers are: 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, May 14; 8 a.m. to noon, Saturday, Aug. 1; 10 to 10 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 10; and 8 a.m. to noon, Saturday, Dec. 5.

Class dates for PBLIS are 6 to 10 p.m., Thursday, June 11; 1 to 5 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 1; 6 to 10 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 22; and 1 to 5 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 5. □

## AREA TALENT

# CD launch distributes composer's music

After years of composing, teaching, playing, publishing music, teacher releases CD

By KIKI COFFMAN  
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Joplin resident Glenda Austin doesn't get stopped on the street often. She name on their piano music at home. She keeps her second life as a composer of piano pieces fairly private.

That life is keeping her busy this year following the release of her CD and the preliminary discussions of two following CDs to be produced this summer.

Austin describes herself using words like "normal" and "average." Not every woman is flown to Japan to record music for devotees and teachers to study, making Austin's life parallel to the "average" woman only in priorities.

Austin lists her family, church, and God as most important in her life.

Austin distributes her time between husband, children, job, and is always composing music when able. She credits her success to God.

"I would say that my relationship with God has helped me a great deal for inspiration, guidance, and support," she said.

Austin began her career in music early on. In college, she began to get paid to perform pieces in events such as weddings and concerts, the foundation for building a profession.

"I have just always loved to play," she said.

Perhaps Austin's secret to success was her early devotion to piano study.

"My sister took lessons as well, and we both really enjoyed playing from day one," she said.

"I carry no regrets as far as wishing I could have done something different."

Her dedication and will to forge ahead in music

"I would say my relationship with God has helped me a great deal for inspiration, guidance, and support."

Glenda Austin  
Composer, College Heights  
Christian School

could also be attributed to destiny.

"I guess I always knew I would be involved in music, and I think I'm pretty lucky to have known it along," Austin said.

"I can't imagine doing anything else."

She can't predict how long it will take to compose a piece of music.

"Sometimes it is really fast in coming, but sometimes I have labored," Austin said.

"There are also the pieces that I have started that I haven't gotten back to.

And then there are the times when I don't do anything with a piece."

Along with recording her own music for a Japanese publisher, she also played some of William Gillock's music so it could be recorded as well. Gillock, now deceased, wrote music for children and received popularity for his work.

Plans are in the negotiation stages for another recording session in which Austin's music will find residence in two more CDs, and Austin will compile another CD with Gillock's music. □



KIKI COFFMAN/The Chart

Glenda Austin's music is played worldwide and has won her recognition in Japan. Austin, a Joplin resident, credits God with her musical achievements.

## JOPLIN POLICE



Chad Allison, Joplin bike patrol officer, studies a rifle a pedestrian was carrying down Main Street. The officers on bike patrol often deal with the same calls as other officers.

TIM WILSON  
The Chart

## Inaugural bike officers on patrol

By TIM WILSON  
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Heeding the advice of the latest Cherry Coke campaign, "Do Something Different," officers Chad Allison and Chuck Niess are doing just that.

These two officers are patrolling the streets on specially equipped mountain bikes as part of the Joplin Police Department's street crime unit.

One particular Thursday began as most others with a few minutes of routine maintenance checks of the bikes. Safety and maintenance is crucial for the officers who depend

Then it's off to answer the first call. Officers responded to a residence with a report of a stolen bowling ball.

"We get any call a regular patrol car would get," Niess said.

"We do tend to deal more with pedestrian checks."

Radios come alive again, this time with a report of a man walking down Main Street with a gun.

Racing down Main Street, the two officers are the first to arrive on the scene.

After questioning, officers discover the man had no car and was taking the gun to a local pawn shop.

"A lot of times the good calls are clear across

town from where you are at," Niess said.

"I know the odds are eventually we will be in the right spot at the right time."

For Allison, investigating the sale and manufacture of illegal drugs was the main appeal of the bikes.

"It's different being on the bikes; you get to see more stuff," he said.

"I really did it because I wanted to work drugs and this was my way to do it."

Niess was drawn to the bikes because of his interest in mountain biking.

"It's something different," he said.

"I used to ride bikes a lot in college. I've always had that interest. You get to ride around and answer calls. You get to meet people on a different level."

Once again the radios call the officers to an injury accident a few blocks away.

A school bus collided with a car pulling away from the side of the street.

No children were on board, and the driver of the car was not seriously hurt.

For the second time of the day, the bicycle officers were first to respond to the scene. The potential for danger is real.

"One of the benefits of the bikes is being able to be the first ones on the scene," Allison said. □

## MONETT

# Cops' duties include aliens, turkey leads

Local officers hunt drug labs, cattle in small town area

By JACQUE MULLINS  
CHART REPORTER

Is Monett really the sleepy little town most people think it is? The reality nothing could be further from the truth.

The Monett Police Department has dealt with everything from turkeys to cows to "aliens" and much more. Monett officers work four 12-hour shifts, from 5 a.m. to 5 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 5 a.m. Each shift has five officers working. Sometimes five officers can be too many or sometimes it's just not enough depending on what is happening. Such occasions in which more officers would be needed are weekends and holidays.

The biggest waste of time Patrol Sgt. S.E.R.T. (Special Emergency Response Team) team leader David Trimble has ever had to respond to while on duty was "the chasing down and execution of a turkey on Highway 37."

The 50-pound turkey was being transported when it fell off the truck on Highway 37.

"It wouldn't have been a problem except that it was right in the middle of traffic," Trimble says. "I feel this unusual incident helped a little to increase my skills in the art of street combat."

Trimble graduated in December 1993 from the Missouri Southern Law Enforcement Academy. He has been employed at Monett for two years and nine months.

"The most unusual call I've ever responded to was a complaint from a lady who claimed she had aliens in her house," Trimble said. "I arrived at her house, and the lady was wearing a hat made of tin foil. No aliens were found on the scene."

Trimble is serious about what he does. His favorite quote is, "Kick ass and take initials."

According to Patrolman Shey Snodgrass, officers tend to get many complaints concerning animals, nuisance calls, and civil problems.

"The most unusual call I've ever responded to was a complaint from a lady who claimed she had aliens in her house. I arrived at her house and she was wearing a hat made of tin foil."

Jeffery Dewitt  
Patrolman

"I get so used to these kind of calls that I let my guard down and one day I'll probably get hurt," he says.

Snodgrass graduated from the Missouri Southern Law Enforcement Academy in 1996. He has worked for Monett for two years.

"Chasing a calf down Central Street and trying to hog tie it has to be the strangest call I've responded to so far," Snodgrass said.

Patrolman Jeffery Dewitt graduated from the Springfield Police Department Academy in May 1997 and has been working for Monett six months.

Dewitt says his least favorite calls to respond to come in the form of complaints from neighbors of barking dogs.

"We really can't do anything because there is not much you can do to keep a dog from barking," he said.

Some of Dewitt's exciting calls include serving search warrants on possible drug houses or wanted persons.

"These type of calls are very intense, dangerous, high adrenaline moments for an officer," he said.

Dewitt's favorite quote is "I would rather be judged by 12 than carried by six." □



BOARD OF REGENTS

# Faculty regent bill awaits Senate slot

By AARON DESLATTE  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. — Academicians breathed a sigh of relief two weeks ago when legislation establishing a faculty member on all state higher education regent boards passed safely out of a Senate education committee.

Their celebration may be short-lived. With one week left in the General Assembly's session, the bill has yet to see any discussion on the Senate floor. It hasn't even been given a calendar slot.

Similar legislation has floated through House and Senate subcommittees for years but never advanced this close to becoming law.

Dr. David Gruber, associate professor of philosophy at Truman State University, has

watched the bills advance and die each year in hearing rooms and lounges. As president of the Missouri conference of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP), Gruber has worked all session to muster support for the legislation. He isn't ready to give up just yet.

"We're cautiously optimistic," he said of the AAUP.

"The bill has gotten further this year than ever before. We've been told by several senators that there will be at least a vote."

The bill, which seeks to create a faculty representative on all state college and university governing boards, has been weakened by amendments in both chambers, but still faces opposition from senators with no such facilities in their districts.

The bill's sponsor in the House, Rep. Ted Farnen (D-Mexico), added an amendment

that would allow governing boards to exclude student and faculty representatives with a unanimous vote specifically to speed the bill's passage. He is uncertain if it will have the desired effect.

"I don't see why people are afraid of opinion," Farnen said.

"That's all a faculty or student representative would do. They would be there to give their perspective on issues."

Farnen said the primary resistance to his bill has come from administrators and university board members.

"Usually at each institution you have one or two curators that are suspicious of [the bill]," Farnen said.

With a host of higher-publicized bills dominating the floors in both chambers, it is growing unlikely Farnen's bill will make it to the Senate floor. □

"I don't see why people are afraid of opinion. That's all a faculty or student representative would do. They would be there to give their perspective on issues."

Rep. Ted Farnen  
(D-Mexico)

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LAW ENFORCEMENT

## 'Zero tolerance' passes Assembly adopts 'loophole' legislation

By AARON DESLATTE  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. — Legislation that would strengthen an already existing "zero-tolerance" ordinance has been sent to Gov. Mel Carnahan.

The legislation, sponsored by Sen. Morris Westfall (R-Halfway), would allow an officer to suspend the driving privileges of a minor if a detaining officer has probable cause to suspect the minor has consumed an alcoholic beverage and the minor refuses to submit to chemical testing.

Under the current zero tolerance law passed by the General Assembly in 1995, if a minor refuses to give consent for chemical testing, he or she must be released immediately.

Rep. Gary Marble (R-Neosho) began sponsoring legislation to tighten the "loophole" in the law three years ago. A similar bill he sponsored this session was attached to Westfall's legislation as an amendment.

Marble said this was the furthest his legislation on the issue has come to becoming law.

"I think the General Assembly really understands the problem we had [with zero tolerance]," Marble said.

"This bill closes the loophole we left three years ago."

Marble said he couldn't think of any reason why Carnahan would not sign the bill into law.

Marble began pushing for the legislation after area police officers and highway patrolmen voiced disdain over the practicality of the law, which they said was impossible to enforce. □

GENERAL ASSEMBLY



## Legislators work to merge budgets

By AARON DESLATTE  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. — Asked a week ago, legislators would emphatically deny any chance of the state budget forcing an extra session similar to last year, when an anti-abortion bill clogged the arteries of the Assembly.

On Wednesday, after heated debate in the House forced a stalemate on the budget, legislators were still shaking their heads — just not with the same intention.

The Missouri State Constitution stipulates that a completed and balanced budget must be presented to Gov. Mel Carnahan no later than 6 p.m. today.

Last year, the Assembly failed to meet its constitutional deadline and was forced to reconvene to hammer out budget differences.

Carnahan has threatened to use his line-item veto to chop the budget into accordance with the Constitution if the Assembly hasn't reached a compromise by its deadline.

With the date looming on the horizon, legis-

lators were starting to feel the pressure on Wednesday.

"We've run into a snag on some abortion legislation," said Rep. Gary Marble (R-Neosho).

"But we will complete the budget this week."

The House's abortion "snag" came less than a day after the chamber became locked up over a compromise reached last week between House and Senate negotiators. The compromise was pertaining to part of the budget that called for setting up a military-style boot camp for state prisoners in St. Louis County.

The House had originally approved the proposal by a 122-24 margin, but rejected changes made by the Senate.

The stall came after approving seven of the 12 bills that comprise the budget, including the bill that provides Missouri Southern's operating budget.

"We've moved on to other bills for now," Marble said on Wednesday. "I don't know if

we'll take up the budget again tonight."

Four hours later, the House had advanced the budget back to the Senate for final consideration.

Realizing no universally pleasing compromise could be reached on some issues, Rep. Gary Burton (R-Joplin) said legislators were willing to sign on to avoid a special session.

"Some of it was because they didn't want to go to special session," he said.

Burton said the Senate still had to send the capital improvement bills to the House for passage before today's deadline.

While passage by the Assembly looked more likely after the House passed on operating budgets, legislators admitted the lack of as many controversial topics made its passage more feasible.

"In past years, the bigger controversies have been in the House," said Rep. Ted Farnen (D-Mexico) after passing the budget.

"Since we adopted a lot of the Senate's language, we shouldn't have much more trouble with it." □

EDITOR'S COLUMN

## General Assembly stands to lose with term limits

While many Missouri citizens and special interest groups have been singing the praises of legislative term limits, Rep. Chuck Surface (R-Joplin) and fellow southwest Missouri legislators are reflecting on what will be lost.

Their somber moods aren't solely because some will be cleaning out their desks in the near future.

They are witnessing the changing of the guard.

The manner in which legislation becomes law will look a lot less familiar.

Some would say a less democratic. Surface remembers when the name Dick Webster, mentioned in support of a bill, was

almost synonymous in the Capitol halls with passage.

In the decades Webster served as a state senator representing southwest Missouri, Surface can remember the countless bills Webster's seniority and personality pushed through committees and hearings. Bills that benefited his district.

Bills that would have surely died had his name not been attached. That would have been a loss.

Surface also remembers, as a freshman representative, his assignment of taking Robert Ellis Young to and from Jefferson City when the Assembly was in session. By that time Young, who served in the House longer than any other representative, was fading physically. But his mind was sharp, as were Surface's ears.

Young would pass advice to the youthful representative when they stopped for coffee in Camden. The advice was invaluable. It was irreplaceable.

When term limits force senior legislators out of office, it will be irretrievable. That will be the Assembly's loss.

In 1965, Webster and Young worked for the third year to establish a four-year college in Joplin. Previous attempts had been vetoed by then-Gov. John Dalton. But this year, with the promised support of newly-elected Gov. Warren Hearnes, the two legislators hand-crafted a bill that they forced through their respective chambers of the Assembly. With the phone lines in Joplin down and the Assembly demanding a name for the institution, Webster decided upon Missouri Southern State College.

If term limits would have been in place then, Young would have been out of office and Webster, in his third year at the Capitol, would have had little support in the House.

Southern might not have taken shape. Thousands of students might be attending college elsewhere or, for financial reasons, not at all. That would be Joplin's loss.

At a glance, term limits must look appealing. They were passed by a large margin of voters. But an initial glance of the Assembly session doesn't detect the precedence established by veteran legislators who know when a bill was proposed in similar fashion years prior.

At a glance, lobbyist funding for legislative support looks appealing. It takes a harder look to bring into focus the legal entanglements that sometimes follow.

Surface is glad he had senior legislators to show him the ropes. But he isn't so sure the same will be available for those who follow him.

When the day comes for Surface and others to leave office for the last time, they are unsure what kind of legislature will be left behind. Certainly a youthful and ambitious lot, anxious to learn the ropes.

But it won't be the same. The teachers will be gone.

That will be Missouri's loss. □

## STATE NEWS BRIEFS

### Attorney General files for U.S. Senate seat

Missouri Attorney General Jay Nixon announced his candidacy for the U.S. Senate this week, hitting the campaign trail in Independence and trekking through much of the state.

The focus of Nixon's agenda is family issues, the democrat told a crowd at a stop in Colombia.

Nixon is running for the seat currently held by Republican Senator Kit Bond.

In his speech, Nixon said he differed from Bond on key family issues, where he said Bond had let Missourians down.

Nixon and Bond are expected to win August primaries and square off in November in what is expected to be one of the nation's most-watched Senate races.

Bond is a former Missouri governor. □

### Public Service Commission forms discussion group

The Missouri Public Service Commission has announced the formation of a Telecommunications Roundtable Discussion Group which will examine the future of the telecommunications industry in the context of the federal and state telecommunications reform legislation passed in 1996.

As part of this roundtable concept, meetings will be held throughout Missouri. Area citizens will be encouraged to attend and participate in the discussions.

An agenda committee composed of 12 people will be named to develop meeting dates and locations as well as topics of discussion. □

### House passes museum funding for Springfield

State funding for a national wildlife museum to be located in Springfield may soon be available after the Missouri House of Representatives approved a \$10 million allocation for the project Tuesday.

The bill containing a \$7.5 million grant and a \$2.5 million loan for the American National Fish & Wildlife Living Museum and Aquarium now goes to the Senate, which has already OK'd the museum funding. The budget must be approved by today. □

### Survey finds Ozark water purist among nation

A federal study revealed this week that the streams and lakes in the Ozarks still rank among the purist in the nation despite threats from large-scale chicken and cattle operations.

The study, conducted by the U.S. Geological Survey, is considered the most comprehensive scientific assessment of Ozark water quality to date.

The region includes southern Missouri and extends into Arkansas, Oklahoma and Kansas.

The study found that the greatest threat posed to the Ozarks' water supply came from the increasing number of farms raising animals for food.

Also posing a threat were several human activities, including wastewater discharges and urban development. □

### Missouri legislator heads national tax group

Legislators from across the nation gathered recently in Denver, Col., to discuss state tax policy. During the meeting of the think tank Missouri State Rep. John Loudon (R-Ballwin) was named to chair the subcommittee on tax limitation.

Attendees from as diverse geographical locations as Delaware and Montana attended the session during which Loudon presented Missouri's Hancock Amendment. □



Aaron Deslatte  
Associate Editor



IT'S IN THE HOLE



As part of Spring Fling activities Jennifer Marti, junior nursing major, tried putting frisbees into a receptor. Friday's picnic brought out many students.

TIM WILSON/The Chart

FEATURE

# End of year means evaluation

By GINNY DUMOND  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

With finals at hand and summertime creeping ever closer, members of the Class of 2001 don't seem to be looking back nostalgically, but, looking ahead for direction.

"I haven't even enrolled for next semester yet," said freshman undecided major Tiffany Hilton who has been feeling the directionless frustration of having not found a major.

While Hilton says she hopes to be beginning summer school in June, the commuter student from Crane, Mo., is having a hard time getting around to the enrollment process.

"It's hard when I'm at home and work all the time," she said. "I wish I had more time on campus. When I'm there I'm just going from class to class — I really need to get on the ball."

Because Hilton has only been on campus Tuesdays and Thursdays this semester to accommodate her work schedule getting even simple things done has been a challenge.

"Maybe next year it will be different, I hope," she said.

Sociology major honor student Wade Early has finished out the season with the Lion

baseball squad and is now feeling a little homesick.

"I'm going home," he said happily.

This summer Early is planning to take classes at the branch of Columbia College in Waynesville which is near his hometown of Buckhorn. Having taken Missouri Southern's lifeguarding class this semester, Early will be working at the city pool in Waynesville and is looking forward to spending time with his two best friends who attend different universities.

"I'm going home because this is going to be the last hurrah for us," Early explained. "So, I figured I should seize the opportunity, you know *Carpe Diem* and all that jazz."

"Plus I miss mom's cooking," he said. "Ramen noodles only go so far."

Following in the footsteps of fellow 2001 classmates, freshman biology major Amanda Pulce will also not be taking the summer off from classes.

"It just sounded like a good idea to get it over with," she said.

While Pulce seems to be having no trouble surviving her classes she is getting overloaded with end of the year stress.

"It's like everybody's trying to hit me with tests this week and then we go right into finals, it's crazy," she said.



Five freshmen, a cross-section of the Missouri Southern student body, share their concerns, fears, and dreams as they move toward graduation in May 2001.

“

*I'm going home because this is going to be the last hurrah for us. So, I figured I should seize the opportunity, you know Carpe Diem and all that jazz.*

Wade Early  
Freshman sociology major

”

Pulce says this first year of college has changed her noticeably.

"I feel like I'm growing up," she said.

Freshman dental hygiene major Nann Robertson will take the summer to adjust to her new extended family and will come back for her sophomore year in the fall to complete her final year before entering the dental hygiene program.

Though he was not enrolled this semester, Damion Belk is expected to return to classes next fall. Belk is still writing and working with computers. □

## DINNER: Students devour this course

From Page 1A

spoon and sometimes the place settings are so close together it can be a little intimidating and hard to tell which side of the place setting is yours," Yazell said. "This luncheon gives them the opportunity to learn that in a safe setting."

The class teaches students to look at the details of a professional setting, including on-the-job communicating, networking, corresponding, and interviewing.

"If you do not behave properly, you will probably not be going to get the job," said Brad Andrews, senior general busi-

ness major. "The guy that pays attention to detail is going to get the job."

The class is offered every semester with a focus on the development of employability and career success skills.

The luncheon has been held for spring semester classes only.

"It's obviously very expensive to do a lunch like this, so we are lucky enough to have Dean [James] Gray in the school of business," Yazell said. "He believes so much in this class and he thinks that the etiquette lunch is so important that he paid for our lunch today, so sometimes those funds are available and sometimes they are not." □

## GRADUATION: It's ending

From Page 1A

split into two ceremonies, with the schools of education and business in addition to general studies majors graduating at 9:30 a.m. The schools of arts and sciences and technology, plus all associate degree graduates, have their ceremony at noon.

Following both of the ceremonies will be a reception on the lawn for graduates.

"Everything is on track for graduation," said Dr. Erik Bitterbaum, vice president for academic affairs. "We just hope it doesn't rain and spoil the reception."

Bitterbaum said the reason for holding the ceremonies inside was due to the "very oppressive" heat. In years past, a single commencement was held in Hughes Stadium. Between 650 and 700 students will be graduating. □

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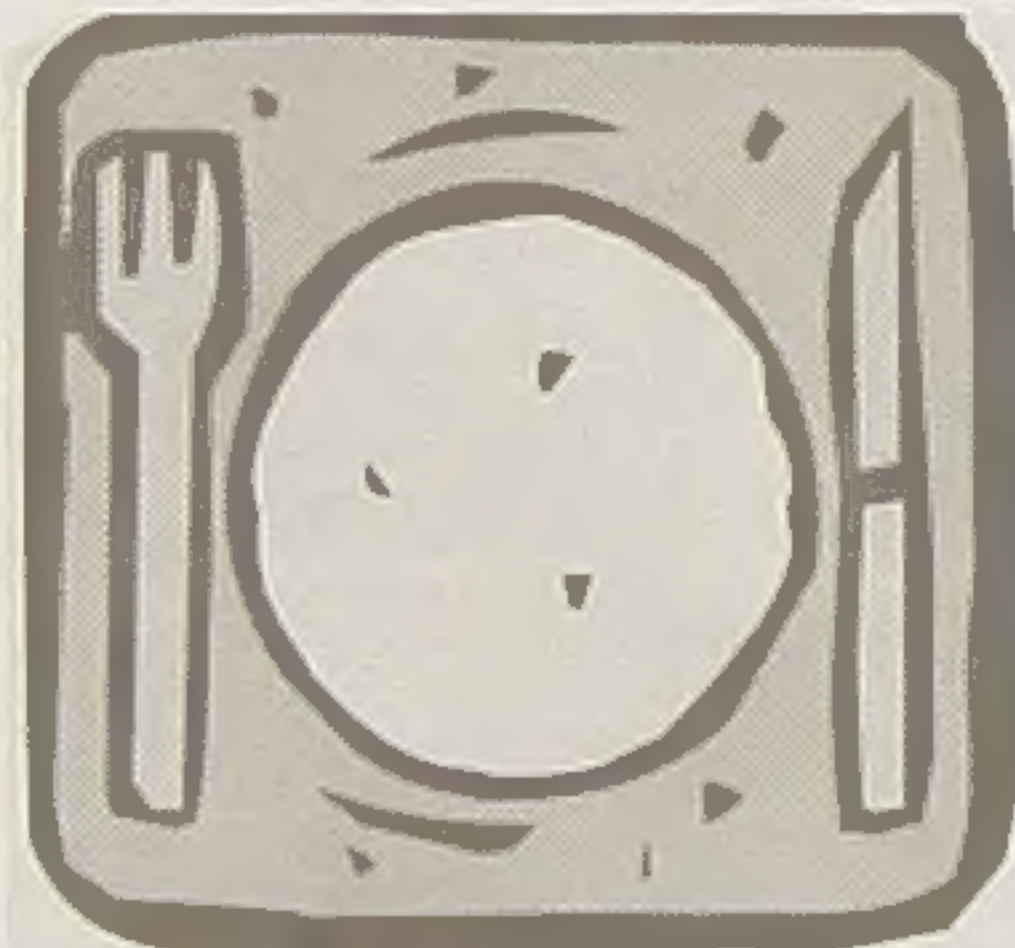
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# Childhood illness triggers onset of disease

By TALANA SLOAN  
CHART REPORTER

Strep throat triggered the onset of a disease that would affect Imma Curl for the rest of her life.

At age 10, she noticed loss of feeling in her hands. Her pediatrician diagnosed her with Raynaud's Phenomenon, said Curl, a senior theatre major at Missouri Southern.

"He sent me to Columbia and I was also diagnosed with rheumatoid arthritis and scleroderma," she said.

Curl came to a shocking discovery while at a student-leader conference in the seventh grade.

"I saw my folder and recognized the emblem of the hospital in Columbia on a letter, so I read it upside down. It said they did not expect me to live past the age of 20," she said.

She said finding out that she was supposed to die within a few years did not bother her as much as the disease. Curl said she was taking as many as 12 aspirins a day to control the inflammation of the arthritis.

"I was given steroid treatments to weaken my immune system so I could take medicine to make me better. It killed all the good things that would protect me from a cold so I was sick all the time," she said.

Curl said Raynaud's Phenomenon is similar to frostbite and hypothermia.

"It is the constricting of the blood vessels in the extremities."

The scleroderma was seriously affecting Curl. It was causing her kidneys to shut down, "which in turn was a symptom of heart failure," she said.

Curl said scleroderma causes the elasticity in tissues to disappear.

"It is like a rubber band that has been in the sun too long," she said. "It gets hard and if you touch it, it falls apart. That's the same idea."

She said there was a time when she could not take in a full lung capacity of air. Her skin is also tight and shiny as a result of this disease. She has calcium deposits as a result of arthritis.

"This causes the closing of the hand where you cannot open it all the way," she said.

Curl said the disease has stopped her from going to school on occasion and participating in extra-curricular activities in high school. She said to make many trips to the hospital before she realized how sick she was.

"I got kicked out of a play at Southern because I was in the hospital," Curl said.

"It stopped me from everyday things like going outside or even hanging out with my friends."

Scleroderma has left little red "spots" on Curl's face.

"I always knew the spots were there and everyone around me said they never noticed them until I know they did," she said.

Curl said children sometimes would frighten the spots for fear of chicken pox. Even when he wanted to try on makeup at the mall, the clerk would tell her not to because of her rash. She said she found herself explaining to everyone.

"I did get a nice compliment from a little boy," said Curl. "He said, 'You're not freckles, those are angel kisses.'"

Curl said "That's a really nice thing to hear."

She recently had laser surgery to remove the spots from her face.

"I did it for myself, because every time I looked in the mirror I saw them. I saw the disease."

Curl said her doctor considers her a "special" case because her body has started to repair itself. She says the doctor says there is hope for her in the future.

"I lived when I was supposed to have died," Curl said. "I think I was too damn stubborn to let go of the time."

Curl is now 26 and should graduate this spring. She says after graduation she plans to move to Chicago. She says she should get a costume job or possibly a seven-week internship in New York.

"I've been theatrical my life, and people told me I should be good at that," Curl said.

She came to Southern as an undecided major until she was introduced to the theatre department.

Curl considers herself a "jack of all trades." She says she can design and build costumes and sets. She can do a roof and leaky pipes. Curl says she can buy, sell and fix cars, even dents on them. She can cure a sick animal and even work on computers, she said.

"I would do women proud because I can pretty much do anything," Curl said.

She says she does not regret having the disease.

"If I never had it, I wouldn't be who I am today, and I certainly like who I am," she said. "I think that [disease] built my character."

Curl says her doctor "foresees no reason why I should get sick in the future."

"I'm a success story. I'm OK. I'm all right," Curl said.



SPECIAL TO THE CHART  
Imma Curl will move to Chicago after graduation this month. She hopes to get a costume job.

## CRIMINAL JUSTICE

# Duties in Marine Corps reserve help Anderson learn about his capabilities

By MATT MADURA  
CHART REPORTER

People can sleep easier at night knowing sophomore Chris Anderson, criminal justice major, is on the nation's Marine Corps reserve list.

"I came to Southern to come to a school with a small class size and the class size is smaller compared to other schools," Anderson said. "The thing I love most about this place is the people I've met and the friends I have made."

At the end of his freshman year he made a decision to join the Marine Corps.

"I joined the Marine Corps because it coincided with my major," he said.

Anderson went through boot camp at Parris Island, M.C.R.D., Calif. and then to boot camp at Camp Pendleton, Calif. near San Diego.

"I have a lot to learn as a Marine," he said. "I get to play with the military toys and learn about my own capabilities as a person."

He is specially trained for anti-tank assault which enable him to destroy an enemy tank.

"This is a job that I take very seriously and train very hard for," Anderson said. "There is also a lot of research that goes into my training. I have to know about allied and enemy tanks along with their characteristics."

Anderson comes to Missouri Southern from Parkview High School in Springfield. Born in Virginia, Minn. in 1977, he moved to California in 1987. Two years later, he moved to Springfield. He joined the Boy Scouts of America at the eighth grade and became an Eagle Scout the summer before his senior year.

"The Marine Corps helps me in my daily life by having self-discipline and the ability to handle life's daily struggles," he said. "My training helps me get through every day."

"There is no better branch in the military. We work together to get the job done. The only difference is the training we have and the jobs we do."

Anderson believes being physically fit is important as a person and a Marine.

He enjoys activities such as rock climbing, mountain biking, snow skiing, and hiking and camping.

"The better shape a man is, the easier it is to move up in rank," he said.

Anderson recently received a promotion in rank and is now a lance corporal.



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This is the last issue of The Chart, thanks for a great year. Good luck to all the graduates.

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Can we have a drumroll please...

The 13th annual LePage-Smith Awards go to recipients ranging from Missouri Southern newcomers to those no longer employed by the College

■ *Lion Team of the Year* is the soccer team. The Lions brought home the conference title — albeit shared with two other teams — with the help of senior leader Todd Eaton and solid play from freshman Ryan Rupar

■ In a unanimous vote, *Lady Lion Team of the Year* is the softball team. Head coach Pat Lipira and her Lady Lions won another conference championship this year. Southern's softball queens turned it up a notch when they needed it most by sweeping through the MIAA tournament. The Lady Lions produced individual accolades second to none

■ For the second year in a row, *Lion Player of the Year* is quarterback Brad Cornelson. Cornelson led the Lions to their best record in his three years under center. He also joined the 4,000/2,000 club this year as he surpassed those career totals in passing and rushing yardage

■ *Lady Lion Player of the Year* goes to Jennifer Jimerson. Once again this four-year starter led the softball team in most offensive and defensive categories. Jimerson's on-field performances earned her the respect of the entire conference. Last week she was named the conference's most valuable player

■ *Athlete of the Year* is cross country runner Sonia Eudy. Although many do not pay attention to the comings and goings of our Lion and Lady Lion thinclads, our sports staff did Eudy (or Blacketer as she once was called) simply ran away with this award

■ Though our *Lion Coach of the Year* will no longer be with us next fall, Rob Green will be taking over offensive coordinating duties at Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College. Green took on the role of head coach after the sudden resignation of coach Jon Lantz last fall and guided the Lions to a 4-0 mark

■ Dr. Pat Lipira is awarded *Lady Lion Coach of the Year*. Not only did Lipira win her fourth conference title in 17 years, but she will also be inducted into the Missouri Southern Athletic Hall of Fame next fall

■ In another unanimous decision, the *Rodney Dangersfield Award* goes to Green. Green, who was adamant about wanting to stay on as a part of the Southern football staff, was given his walking papers in December. Green, who once described himself as a "Missouri Southern Lion through and through," will be missed.

■ For the first time, a *Freshman of the Year* award will be given out. The first recipient will be Lady Lion pitcher Britany Hargis. Hargis rocked opponents in the Lady Lions' MIAA tournament victory. She also followed in the footsteps of teammates Jimerson and Pam Brewer in being named freshman of the year for the MIAA.

Again, *The Chart* sports staff would like to wish luck to Southern athletes and teams next season as well as congratulate this year's LePage-Smith recipients ☐

THE CHART SPORTS SCENE

Friday, May 8, 1998

TRACK & FIELD

Conference meet shows guts, desire

By GINNY DUMOND ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Hard work and character across the board are two words that their coaches would use to describe the efforts of Lion and Lady Lion track and field teams at the conference meet Friday and Saturday

While the women finished close to the top of their field and the men were closer to the bottom, there were good things to report from both sides

"We had an outstanding total team effort," women's coach Patty Vavra said of the Lady Lions, who finished only six points out of second place

Conference championships in both the 3,000- and the 5,000-meter runs on the women's side went to Sonia Eudy, who will probably be one of several Southern women traveling to nationals

The performances of such runners as Tina Keller, who won the 100 hurdles and placed second in the 400 hurdles in setting provisional qualifying times and school records in

both were more typical than not for the women

Amanda Harrison was second in the 1,500 and the 3,000 and third in the 800

Dalana Lofland, along with Keller, had a peak performance in the two-day event "She finished the 400 (placing third) and walked the starting line to run the 100," Vavra said "That's the kind of commitment you get from Dalana Lofland."

Among other notable performances were Stephanie Wainwright, third in the shot and eighth in discus, and the 4x100 relay team's provisional qualifying time

Sophomore runner Jessica Zeiler took on a heavy load at conference, but performed better than expected in every race. She placed fourth in the 10,000 and seventh in the 5,000

Today's Twilight Invitational at Emporia State and next week's home meet will be the last chances for Southern runners to qualify for the national tournament at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville on May 16

Vavra says no matter what happens at the

remaining two meets, she is pleased with this season

"This team set some really lofty goals this season, and it was the hard work day in and day out at practice that helped them reach those goals."

The men's squad, which has been plagued by shallow talent in sprints and hurdles, managed to bring home several honors. Freshman javelin thrower Tomi Paalanen brought home the conference championship in his event and is headed for nationals with his fifth-place national seed. Jon Wilks came third in the 3,000 steeple chase, and Dusty Franks took third in the 300 meters

Tyson Sims, high jumper, placed third at the meet after finishing spring football at Southern last Thursday

"The people we knew were going to score scored, but we just ran out of bullets," men's coach Tom Rutledge said "We don't have the depth to hold against the Centrals and the Pitt States"

Rutledge, in the midst of his recruiting season, says he is looking for athletes who will mesh well with his current athletes

66

This team set some really lofty goals this season, and it was the hard work day in and day out in practice that helped them reach those goals.

Patty Vavra Head women's track coach

99

"My guys are good young men, and I'm very proud of them," he said "You hear about character in the time, and these guys are loaded with it." ☐

BASEBALL FEATURE

You just have to work hard every day to reach the goals you want to achieve

whether that be regionals or playing ball after college. 99

Walters swings big bat, fills void for squad

By SUSIE FRISBIE ASSISTANT EDITOR

With last fall's loss of third baseman Brad Smith, Missouri Southern's infield was left with a question mark. The answer was found in junior Derrick Walters

Smith played last summer at Cape Cod in a league head coach Warren Turner calls "the Cadillac of college leagues."

"By playing out there he thought that maybe he could be drafted because he was playing so well against the top college Division I players," Turner said

Smith opted to play junior college ball in hopes he could get drafted this year as a sophomore. That option would not have been available to him for at least another year if he had stayed at Southern

Ironically, as Smith was beginning his junior college baseball career, Walters was ending his

Walters, who spent two seasons at Crowder before joining the Lions in January, has since proved to be a valuable asset. He attributes the many facets of the Southern program to his decision to play at Southern

"I had three or four other Division II schools looking at me, but I knew a lot about [Southern's] program from the time I spent at Crowder, and I liked the way everything was run," Walters said

Turner believes he is fortunate to have Walters, whom he describes as a Division I caliber player

"He hits fourth for us and doesn't strike out much," Turner said "He's one of the few big men we've had who has hit fourth and doesn't strike out."

Walters was all-metro and all-conference for three years while in high school in Sapulpa, Okla. At Crowder, Walters was named MVP, regional MVP, and Region 16 all-star. Both years at Crowder, he batted over .400

So far this season, Walters leads the team with ten home runs. He has also earned a batting average of .421.

However, one aspect of baseball has changed for Walters since leaving Crowder — fan support

"The community service the team does gets a lot of the community involved in the baseball program," he said "They come out and watch us play, which we didn't have at Crowder."

The added support of the crowd may help catapult Walters into the national spotlight

"He has a real chance for the pros," Turner said "Even this year he has a chance to get drafted. I hope he does. I know he wants to do that."

Walters has hopes of playing professional baseball but realizes his play can only get him so far

"Playing professional ball all depends on if I get lucky and get seen by the right person at the right time," he said

Walters believes success lies in the old-fashioned principle of hard work

"You just have to work hard every day to reach the goals you want to achieve, whether that be making regionals or playing ball after college," he said ☐

Junior third baseman Derrick Walters has come onto the scene at just the right time as a strong hitter for the Lions.

THE CHART



BASEBALL

Lions drop first two games of tourney, finish season

By JEFF WELLS STAFF WRITER

Missouri Southern made a quick exit from the MIAA tournament last weekend, dropping two games at Emporia State University

The Lions lost the first game 6-2. Senior right-fielder RJ. Forth hit his ninth homer of the year in the effort

Kevin Escala (4-3) threw six innings in taking the loss

The Hornets won the second game 9-4. Emporia catcher Jeremy Bartlett had a homer in each game

Southern finished the season with a 21-20 record

The pitching staff was plagued by injuries all season. Coach Warren Turner was left searching for answers in moving players from relief to starter

"We've struggled, we had a bunch of guys get hurt in our pitching staff, but we've hit the ball well all year long," Forth said "As the old saying is pitching and defense wins championships, they've just let us down this year; we had too many injuries."

The season was a roller coaster ride starting with the ups and downs of playing NCAA Division I teams, rain-plagued tournament play in March, and the MIAA regular season again dominated by Central Missouri State

"For the four years I've been here it's seems like it has been Central and then everyone else," said senior outfielder Stephen Crane

Turner will be losing several key players at graduation, including pitchers Mike Bronakoski, Cody Morin, and Ralph Iovinelli (six saves). Dana Morris, also a senior, was injured early in the year. Also leaving will be Crane, Bobby Braeckel, Brandon Eggleston (who led the team with a batting average of .426), Forth, and Marcus Patton

Escala, Matt Endicott (2-3), and Fowler, who all had regular appearances on the mound, will be returning

Among the position players returning is third baseman Derrick Walters, who led the team with 61 hits and 10 home runs, and had the second highest batting average on the team (.421). ☐



SPECIAL TO THE CHART/BAKIN Shively

Senior catcher Marcus Patton catches the ball after a swing and a miss by Missouri-Rolla. Patton is one of several baseball Lions who finished their career at Southern last weekend.



# THE CHART

Friday, May 8, 1998

Section  
**B**

# Top 25 seniors

## Meet our top graduates

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JASON CLEVELAND/The Chart

Shelley Henderson received her first degree in finance. In December she finished a second degree in business education.

# Henderson gathers two

## Student acquires finance, business education degrees

By HEATHER OWENS  
STAFF WRITER

One degree wasn't enough for one Missouri Southern student who opted to change fields, but stick with something she knows.

Shelley Henderson, business education major, graduated in December with a 4.0 GPA.

"I think I have less to do with how smart you are, but how hard you work," she said.

Henderson received a degree in finance at Pittsburg State University, but came to Missouri Southern because she wanted to teach business to high school students.

"I enjoyed my education at Southern because I really got to know my instructors and advisers," she said.

"The instructors weren't as approachable as they are here at Southern," Henderson said about her experience at PSU.

Her favorite instructor at Southern was Dr. David McConnell, associate professor of education. Her favorite class was Microteaching, taught by McConnell.

She said McConnell is a huge fan of the actor Jim Carrey and has a positive effect on his teaching.

McConnell said Henderson was a great student to have in class.

"She's a wonderful person and a model student," he said. "She was always prepared for class and very professional. She addressed her colleagues and professors in a respectful way and was easy to work with."

Another person she said she appreciated very

much was James Gray, dean of the school's business.

"He really worked with me," she said. "He's so nice. He helped me get into a computer class I needed."

Henderson is currently substitute teaching and will begin teaching introduction to business at Cassville High School. She will teach junior high keyboarding part-time.

Balancing classes and a family was one of the most difficult aspects of her college career, she said.

"When I came back to school, I was married and pregnant."

Her daughter, Jayse, was born Dec. 30, 1996.

"I'd usually do my homework when she napped," Henderson said. "Any free time I had when my husband was home I would go to the library."

Henderson was inducted into Alpha Chi, a national honor society, and Kappa Delta Pi, a national honor society for education majors. She was treasurer of Pi Omega Pi, a national honor society for business. She was also involved with the Missouri Business Education Association (MBEA) and National Business Education Association (NBEA).

Henderson could do anything differently, she said she would have studied abroad.

She gives this advice to upcoming graduates: "Don't just take the first job that someone offers you if it's not what you really want."

Top  
25  
Seniors

Name:

Shelley Henderson

Major:

Business Education

GPA:

4.0

“A degree is a valuable thing, and now I know it's all worth it.”

# Maize achieves positive balance in home, education

By RHONDA CLARK  
STAFF WRITER

Combining the roles of student, wife, mother, and volunteer, Shanna Maize pursued her degree in elementary education and obtained a 4.0 grade-point average upon graduation in December 1997.

"My husband, Jason, was very supportive, even though he didn't think I'd be in college for five years," she said. "Everything worked out pretty well — better than I thought."

When not studying, Maize enjoyed "staying home and playing mommy" to her daughter Tiniika, now 6. The pair also spent time together when Maize was assigned to the Child

Development Center at Missouri Southern, where Tiniika attended.

Dr. Susan Neufeld, assistant professor of elementary education, views teachers as "nurturers," and said Maize demonstrated interest and enthusiasm with the children she taught while a Missouri Southern student.

"We as faculty are encouraged to see students in class who go out and are successful," Neufeld said. "I enjoyed Shanna in and out of class."

In the remainder of her "spare" time, Maize was an involved member of the Association for Childhood Education International, of which Neufeld is the sponsor. Maize was also in the International Reading Association and the Student Missouri State

Teachers Association.

Maize recalled her student teaching assignment at Wyandotte (Okla.) Elementary, where she taught kindergarten and third grade.

"One of the neatest things was the Oklahoma Days celebration," she said. "The kids brought in memorabilia and we dressed up and acted out the history."

A transfer student from Crowder College, Maize had some concerns about completing her final three years at Southern, but found the schools similar.

"The teachers take a lot of interest in their students," she said. "I was worried because Southern is bigger, but the two are a lot the same."

Maize believed the courses

Methods and Materials and Diagnostic and Remedial Reading instructed by Neufeld were most helpful.

"She (Neufeld) teaches a lot of valuable information that's important for becoming a teacher," she said.

Maize thinks hard work and dedication pay off.

"Students should always work their hardest and never give up," she said. "A degree is a valuable thing, and now I know it's all worth it."

A substitute teacher since graduation, Maize anticipates a contract from one of three school systems for a permanent position this fall.

"I think Shanna will be very good in the classroom," Neufeld said. "When I look at the students in my

classes, I ask myself, 'Would I want to be a colleague of this person?' In Shanna's case, the answer is yes. She has a lot to offer."

Top  
25  
Seniors

Name:

Shanna Maize

Major:

Elementary Education

GPA:

4.0



# The job of her dreams

## Veterinarian internship helps Berkner discover career

By MARLA HINKLE  
STAFF WRITER

Working 20 hours per week at a veterinary clinic while maintaining a 3.96 grade-point average has helped Nicole Berkner, a December biology graduate, determine her dream job.

"I always knew I wanted to work with animals, so I started out by studying marine biology," she said.

After an internship at Dickerson Park Zoo in Springfield as an assistant zoo keeper, Berkner realized she would prefer to work with animals of the dry land variety.

Berkner attributes her success to long hours of study and the support of her family and husband. One of her fondest memories of Southern is her Plant Physiology class taught by Dr. Jim Jackson, professor of biology.

"This class was enjoyable because Dr. Jackson, who is one of my favorite teachers, always made the class so much fun," Berkner said. "His teaching style allowed the

students to have fun while also learning."

Jackson's memories of Berkner are as complimentary as her memories of him.

"Nicole was an outstanding student," Jackson said. "She was pleasant and joyous and had a wonderful personality that made her easy to work with."

"The most significant thing about Nicole was the way she found out about her profession. She jumped right in and began working at a fish hatchery, then a zoo. Doing all these things early on really helped prepare her for her career."

Berkner, a member of Alpha Chi for three years, said she will miss some things about Southern.

"I remember the cafeteria food, taking naps in the afternoon, and having time to do things with my friends," she said. "Now

that I have a full-time job, I do not have as much time as I did to do things for myself. My only regret is that I did not take more time to just goof off."

Berkner has been accepted into veterinary school and will be a full-time student once again. □

Top  
25  
Seniors

Name:  
Nicole Berkner

Major:  
biology

GPA:  
3.96

# Busywork gets things done

By TAFFY COKER  
CHART REPORTER

With a full-time job, a full-time husband, and being a full-time student, maintaining a 3.934 grade-point average is a significant accomplishment for psychology major Stormi Nordstrom.

"If you stay busy, you have less time to put things off," Nordstrom says.

Keeping this attitude was not always easy over the four years at Missouri Southern. During her first semester, she got married and became the manager of the Coffee & Tea Company at the Northpark Mall.

"She makes great cappuccinos," said a customer at the cashier's counter.

During Nordstrom's second year here, her brother was killed. Even with that giant blow, she pushed on.

Nordstrom chose psychology, she says, because "I had a psychology class in high school I really liked. It seemed right more than anything else." She specializes in "basic research psychology as opposed to clinical psychology."

She says she didn't actually have one particular class that was difficult for her. It was the combination of taking two intimidating classes together in the same semester. Those classes were Experimental Psychology and Memory and Cognition.

"They were both so intense," she said.

Although Memory and Cognition was intense, it was her favorite class. This class was taught by Dr. Brian Babbitt, professor of psychology. He was her favorite instructor and her adviser.

"As a student, Stormi is a delight," Babbitt said. "She is very bright, articulate, and highly motivated. She is one of those students who does her work with little fuss and always has a positive attitude." □

Top  
25  
Seniors

Name:  
Stormi Nordstrom

Major:  
Psychology

GPA:  
3.934



PHYLLIS DETAR/The Chart

Senior Kelly Maness accepted the challenge and passed with flying colors. She will graduate with a criminal justice degree and a 4.0 grade-point average.

## Maness learns strengths

By ESDRA LAMY  
CHART REPORTER

Returning to school can sometimes be challenging to many, but Kelly Maness accepted the challenge four years ago and will successfully graduate from Missouri Southern.

Maness is graduating with a 4.0 grade-point average and a degree in criminal justice.

She believes if students want to do well they have to first learn their strengths and weaknesses.

"Mathematics and sciences were my weaknesses, so I took those courses in the summer," she said. "I don't think students should overload themselves; they should take it easy and don't take more than two hard classes a semester."

Maness is a non-traditional student. She got married after high school and decided to take care of the family. She decided to return to school about four years ago. An employee at LaBarge Electronics in Joplin, she had worked there for seven years and was one of many workers laid off.

"After I got laid off I was faced with the challenge of either going back to school and getting a degree or trying to survive in the work force," Maness said. "It's hard to market yourself on the work force without that college degree. I give a lot of credit to Connie Jacobs, one of my co-workers at LaBarge; she really pushed me to get back in."

Maness believes her first semester encouraged her to continue.

"I did well my first semester, and from that point my confidence and motivation went sky high," she said. "If I would've had a bad semester, I probably wouldn't have returned."

She also has a family to tend to besides the books. She has been married to Sherwin Maness for five years, and they have two sons, Jason and Jeremy.

"My family has been supportive and patient these past four years, and their support has been a great help," she said.

Test anxiety was one of the biggest obstacles Maness had to overcome on her journey.

"It's hard keeping up when you're 40 years old because your brain doesn't function as well as it used to," Maness said.

She wasn't sure what to major in at

first until taking a law enforcement course with Dr. Jack Spurlin, now dean of the school of technology. After the course, she decided to major in criminal justice. He was also her favorite instructor.

"She has an inquiring mind," Spurlin said. "She had a lot to say in class, and she always asked questions. She was a pleasure to teach. It made my job easy having students like her."

Maness is currently volunteering as a probation and parole officer, and also works as a community service project director.

"My favorite thing about Southern was the people and the kindness of the instructors."

Top  
25  
Seniors

Name:  
Kelly Maness

Major:  
Criminal Justice

GPA:  
4.0



“I don’t like to settle when I know I can do better.”

## Getting the balance right

**Burkhart juggles school, athletics; passes advice to undergraduates**

By NATALIE WEEKS  
CHART REPORTER

Finding a balance to accomplish everything at a successful level is the key to success for Neely Burkhart, senior biology major.

“I don’t like to settle when I know I can do better.”

Burkhart said “It takes dedication and determination to accomplish things.”

Burkhart will graduate in May with a 4.0 grade-point average.

After graduation, she plans to attend graduate school to pursue a master’s degree in physical therapy.

“Missouri Southern is a small enough school where you can get to know your professors and you’re not just another number,” she said.

She chose biology as her major because it was a good avenue to pursue physical therapy.

It has taken her five years to graduate with two minors in business and athletic training.

Burkhart was a four-year starter for the Lady Lions volleyball team, and member of Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Through FCA, she has traveled to high schools and spoken to students. She also works 15 to 20 hours a week in the training program with Southern athletics.

“It’s extraordinary how Neely has been able to perform at

the highest level possible as a student and athlete,” said Dr. Scott Wells, assistant professor of biology. “The demands are so high and can be difficult, and Neely has maintained a good balance to accomplish everything.”

She said if she could start all over again, she wouldn’t do anything differently.

“I feel that I have chosen the right means to reach my goals and destination,” she said.

“My advice to students is to enjoy your time while you’re in college and take advantage of the opportunities you are given.”

Burkhart has been a two-time All American volleyball player. She received the Linebacker Award of Excellence in May 1997. This award is given to an outstanding athlete each year. She was recently named Southern’s outstanding graduate for May.

In her spare time Burkhart enjoys playing racquetball, tennis, and softball. She also enjoys helping out with athletic camps at Southern for basketball, softball, and volleyball.

Top  
25  
Seniors

Name:  
Neely Burkhart

Major:  
Biology

GPA:  
4.0



DEBORAH SOLOMON/STAFF

Burkhart tapes the feet of an athlete before a game.

## Miller flourishes during ‘second round’ at college

By ERIC GRUBER  
STAFF WRITER

As if college wasn’t enough the first time around, Karin Miller, senior English education major, is graduating from Missouri Southern this month with her second degree and no regrets.

Miller received a bachelor of arts degree in English and the mass media from Chadron (Neb.) State College. She says her life experiences and personal drive are the secret to her success in returning to school and graduating with a 4.0 GPA.

“I think the older you get and the more experience you have in life makes a difference,” Miller said. “I have a family, and I’m a high achiever. I figure I’m going to do it. I might as well do it right.”

During her career at Southern, she interned at Joplin Junior High two years ago. She is currently student teaching at Joplin High School.

This semester she was inducted into Alpha Chi, a national honor society. She has also been involved in Kappa Delta Pi.

Miller said her favorite class at Southern was Classroom Management, taught by Dr. David McConnell, associate professor of education.

“I thought he taught the class well and I learned a lot from it,” she said. “I thought it was worthwhile.”

McConnell says when it comes to hard work and determination, Miller’s evidence is her attitude and marks.

“I remember Karin as being a very serious student,” McConnell said. “Her grades speak for themselves.”

Listed as her toughest class was Foundations of Education, a class on the study of the historical, philosophical, and sociological aspects of education that was also taught by McConnell.

“The content wasn’t as interesting,” she said.

It comes as no surprise that McConnell is her favorite instructor.

“I just think he knows what he’s doing when he’s teaching and the way he presents it,” Miller said. “I enjoy the way he presents the material and he assigns a lot of writing. I’m an English major, and I like to write.”

McConnell said he enjoyed having Miller in class and remembered her as a very focused student.

“I remember in particular her participation in Classroom Management,” he said.

“I always perceived that she was chewing the stuff over.” He also said Miller’s “very pleasant” aura will be sure to carry over to her ability as a teacher.

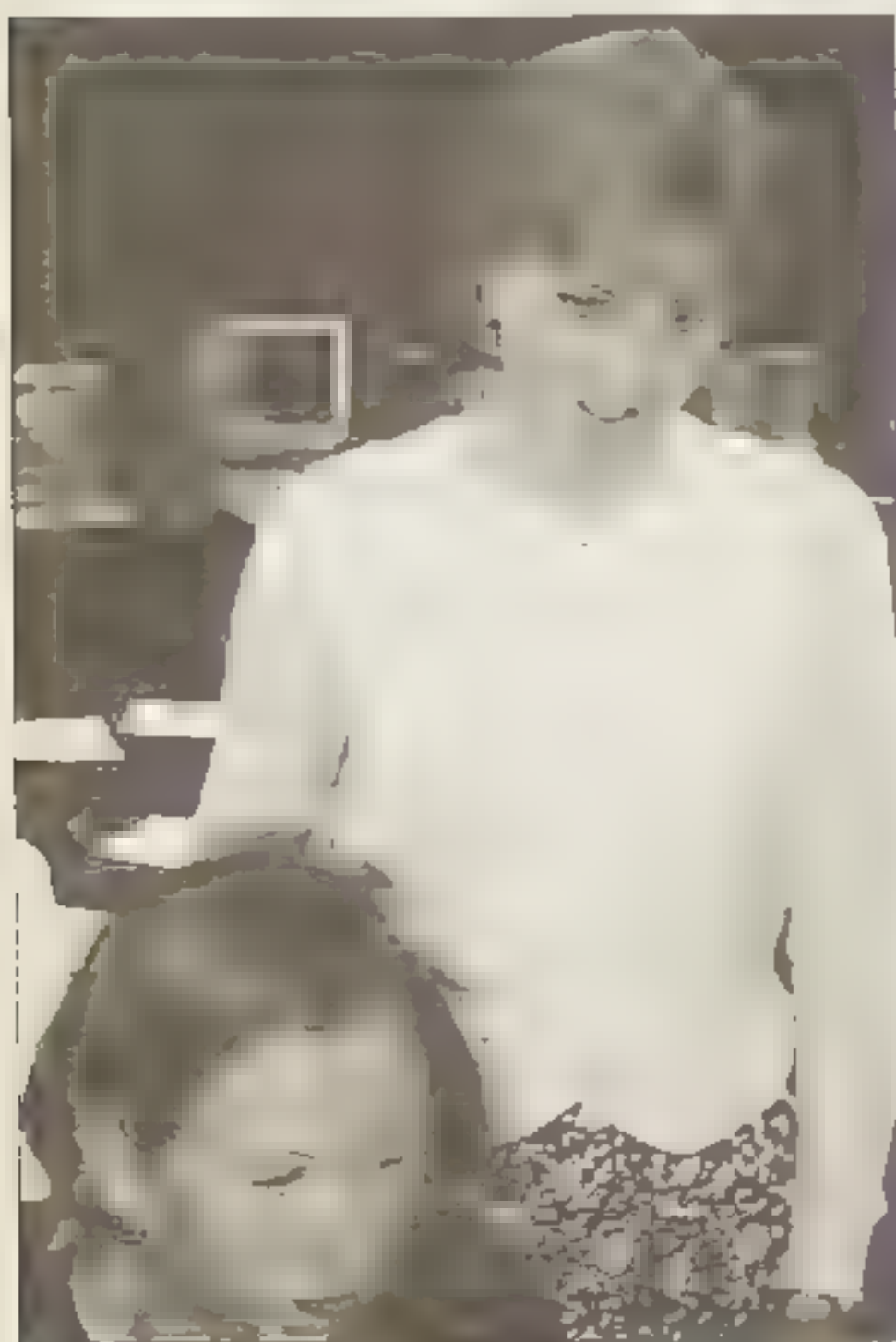
“She was always sensitive and will be a very ethical teacher,” he said.

Top  
25  
Seniors

Name:  
Karin Miller

Major:  
English

GPA:  
4.0



K. K. COFFMAN/STAFF

Karin Miller will receive her second degree this month.



# Ross motivates herself

Couple sets sights on school, possible career in theatre

By CASSIE HOMBS  
HART REJ

Many Missouri Southern students have a difficult time maintaining a 4.0 grade-point average. Just imagine the difficulty when late nights, weekends, and endless hours in Southern's theatre department are added to the struggle.

As one of the top 25 seniors graduating May 23, Autumn Ross has done just that. A theatre major with a 4.0 GPA, she has been in more than 25 plays during her four years at Southern.

"I've shed blood here," Ross said. "But Missouri Southern has offered so much to me."

She has high hopes for her future. After graduation, she and fiance Brandon Davidson, a Southern theatre graduate, plan to head to graduate school.

"We've auditioned for Western Illinois University," Ross said. "When you're in theatre, it's not just based on grades. A 4.0 looks good on paper, but you have to go and present yourself."

"I want to be a working actor and teach as well. That means working in smaller theatres and taking smaller roles, then that's fine. But I think we should aim big."

Many would say she already has. In four years at Southern, Ross has been a member of the honors program, Epsilon Mu Sigma, Phi Eta Sigma, Alpha Chi, Omicron Delta Kappa, and was the student representative on the steering committee for the North Central Association accreditation visit.

## Top 25 Seniors

Name:  
Autumn Ross  
Major:  
Theatre  
GPA:  
4.0

She also received several awards, including an Irene Ryan nominee for best actress for the *Fourposter*.

Ross names two people who have been especially helpful during her career: Southern.

"I really owe a lot to Dr. Jay Fields [theatre department head] and [Dr.] Pat Kluthe [assistant director of the honors program]," she said. "Those two are really wonderful examples of what a career should aim for."

"I would definitely say I'd like to be a theatre teacher. It's a great job. You could be a theatre teacher and suddenly want to be in the theatre."

Many faculty members have the same sentiments toward Ross.

"We're so proud of her," said Anne Jaros, associate professor of theatre and costume designer. "Autumn is a wonderful, sincere person. She's hard working, conscientious, and talented. She's been such an asset to our department."

Although it may seem a little odd, there was a break in the routine. Ross cites a few classes that were a challenge to her.

"My toughest classes were probably Directing I and II and Acting II, the reason being that when you take those classes, you have to work out

side of class with other people. When you have to work around a schedule with other people, and when you have to rehearse outside of class with them, you have to depend on them, and everyone's grade is on the line. It can be very difficult."

Even with all the stress, Ross manages to keep things in perspective.

"I don't work for A's," she said. "I think that's a wrong focal point for students. I just want to try to learn as much as I can. My goal is to continually motivate and challenge myself. Everyday I try to make myself better than I was yesterday."



SHANDY MCBRIDE/TM CHART

During her career in the Missouri Southern theatre department, Autumn Ross has participated in several productions including *fourposter*.



## Martin mixes world travel, school

By JACQUE MULLINS

In a way, Joanie Martin's different world travels and school work are the same. One of the things Martin has little time for is school work.

However, with a 3.994 grade-point average, this senior music education piano major has had no problem with school.

Martin has visited Mexico and Guatemala on church mission trips, a majority of the states in the U.S. on family vacations, and Africa while working with the Child Evangelism Fellowship organization.

Martin enjoys working with children and is family oriented.

"I would like to have a strong, close-knit family, a family who will work with each other through anything," she said.

Martin has always had the support

of her parents and her fiance, Aaron Coleman. After dating for five years, Martin and Coleman plan to wed June 2. After moving back to Tulsa, their hometown, the couple will work full-time. Martin plans to teach private piano lessons and classes at the Jamell Whipby School of Music.

Between traveling, planning a wedding, and graduating later this month, Martin stays busy.

The first five weeks of her student teaching, Martin was at Cecil Floyd Elementary School in Joplin. The last five weeks she has taught at Joplin High School.

"I knew when I was a senior in high school that I wanted to be a music teacher," Martin said. "There isn't anything I would like doing better than teaching music."

Martin's long-term goal is to develop and run a private piano studio.

Dr. Phillip Wise, assistant professor

## Top 25 Seniors

Name:  
Joanie Martin  
Major:  
Music Education  
GPA:  
3.994

of music, has been a favorite instructor for Martin.

"Joanie is a breath of fresh air," Wise said. "She has a wonderfully engaging personality and a great sense of humor."



# Gibfried set for more



BRIAN SHIVLEY/TIM CHART

Biology major Matt Gibfried said following a study system helped him focus his work energy.

## Biology major heading to Mizzou

By SCOTT MEEKER  
CHART REPORTER

For senior biology major Matt Gibfried, the secret to graduating with a 3.98 grade-point average boils down to one word: consistency.

"I really struggled my first year with how to study and be productive with my study time," he said. "But I found a system that worked for me and stuck with it."

Gibfried's study system has paid off. After graduating May 8, he will attend medical school at the University of Missouri Columbia.

Before transferring to Missouri Southern three and a half years ago, Gibfried attended Northeast Missouri State University, where he tried to find a balance between his desire to enter the medical field and his love for music.

"I was a music major for a year," he said. "I thought I could have the best of both worlds by majoring in music and getting my premed requirements too. But it was really tough, so I switched to a biology major after a year."

Even so, Gibfried has managed to find time to devote to both. He has played violin in the orchestra for several years and has taken lessons with Dr. Kesi Liu, assistant professor of music. He

has also worked nearly three years for Easy Living, a Joplin-based company that provides support services to individuals with developmental disabilities.

He cites Organic Chemistry as being the toughest course he has taken at Southern.

"If you ask any biology major what their hardest class is, most will tell you Organic Chemistry," he said. "It is very hard to study and understand, and requires lots of memorization."

Gibfried has nothing but praise for his instructors at Southern, and credits them with his high marks on his medical school entrance exams.

"I received a lot of individual attention, and that might not have been possible at a larger school," he said.

Dr. James Jackson, professor of biology, has worked closely with Gibfried over the past several years and considers him to be a real "renaissance man."

"Matthew is an extremely well-rounded individual," he said. "He is very clear and intelligent, and quick to grasp difficult concepts."

As far as Jackson is concerned, Gibfried has chosen the perfect profession.

"Matthew has a wonderful capacity for empathy and understanding, which are perfect criteria for a physician," Jackson said.

For others considering entering the medical field, Gibfried said hard work is the key to success. □

## Top 25 Seniors

Name:  
Matt Gibfried

Major:  
Biology

GPA:  
3.98

# Dale overcomes obstacles

By BETH HAMILTON  
STAFF WRITER

There is an old saying that success does not come without a price. For Alane Dale, success has been an uphill battle. Dale now sits on top of the hill, on the verge of graduation in May as one of the top 25 seniors.

Dale has faced many obstacles, some which are medical and have caused her to drop classes and even entire semesters.

While in college, Dale has had her gall bladder removed, had a hysterectomy, a divorce, carbon monoxide poisoning, and in the past year has had numerous family deaths. Through it all, Dale maintains a 3.94 grade-point average.

"When you come up to a wall you just have to find a way over, around, or through it and then it's not a wall, but just an obstacle," Dale said.

"And when you reach the top of the wall, it's not even an obstacle, but just a stepping stone," she said.

Another large part of Dale's life are her four kids, Landon, 25; Tristan, 15; Heather, 11; and Lauren, 10.

"If it weren't for my kids and my mom I would never have made it," she said. "I do everything for my children and my mother never stops believing in me," Dale said.

Her daughter Heather has Down's Syndrome.

"Heather won a gold medal in the tennis ball throw at the Special Olympics," Dale said.

When Heather was born and diagnosed with Down's Syndrome, Dale did not even know what that meant. This is one thing that sparked her interest in the biology field.

Another reason Dale became interested in biology and medicine is that her dad died when she was in the fifth grade. Dale thought there was a correlation between Alzheimers and Down's Syndrome, she wanted to research it and went to college to do just that.

"It's been kind of my pet research project through college," she said.

Dale says in the past couple of years information has been published that shows a direct correlation between the two. The information shows that the brain topography in older people with Down's Syndrome often is the same as that of Alzheimer's patients.

Dale's favorite instructor is Dr. James Jackson, professor of biology, although she loves all of the science instructors. She also says her favorite class is any class with Jackson.

"He's the best teacher on campus," she said. "He's genuinely concerned for all of his students and he's just a friend." □

## Top 25 Seniors

Name:  
Alane Dale

Major:  
Biology

GPA:  
3.94

## Top 25 Seniors

Name:  
Stephanie Crawford

Major:  
Nursing

GPA:  
3.971

# College career falls into place for nursing major

By TALANA SLOAN  
CHART REPORTER

Choosing a major at Missouri Southern was a difficult decision for Stephanie Crawford.

"I didn't know exactly what I wanted to do or really know who I was when I first started college," said Crawford, a graduating nursing major.

Crawford said she only knew she wanted to be in a health-related field, and eventually everything fell into place.

She said Lori LeBahn, her adviser at the time, helped by giving her personality and career tests. After Crawford took these tests, it gave her an idea of where her interests were.

Crawford said the beginning of the nursing program was a "testing ground." It helped her decide if she wanted to be a nurse for the rest of her life.

"Once I got involved in nursing, I knew it was what I wanted to do," Crawford said.

Marilyn Jacobs, associate profes-

sor of nursing, has also been supportive. Crawford said Jacobs is "always there to help you. She is just a real good friend to everyone."

Jacobs believes Crawford "is very knowledgeable, caring, and quietly confident."

"She has strong values," Jacobs said. "I believe she will be a strong asset to the nursing profession."

Crawford said balancing her time was important in maintaining grades. She thinks students should put their heart into everything they do. □



JOHN MORRIS/The Chart

Finding a major was difficult for Stephanie Crawford.



# Senior finds success easy

By CASSIE HOMBS  
CHART REPORTER

For Amanda Cawmer, one of Missouri Southern's top 25 seniors, hard work is something that comes naturally.

Cawmer, a 22-year-old computer information science major, lists studying hard as one of the secrets to her success in college career.

"I have to keep on top of things and keep organized," she said. "I had to work hard in high school to get a scholarship, and after you develop study skills like that, it kind of carries over. I push myself to be hard."

"It's not that I think I'm smarter than everyone else, I just think I work a lot harder than most people."

With a 3.974 grade point average, Cawmer makes college look easy.

However, even she has had her personal obstacles to overcome. A problem with her thyroid caused her to develop an illness that almost forced her to lay out her sophomore year.

"My freshman year I was really, really sick. I had some problems, and I went to several doctors, but we couldn't figure out what was going on," she said. "We were treating the symptoms and not the problem. It took me a long time

to build my strength after that. It was a real strain on me."

So with all the stress of being what made Cawmer choose such a difficult major?

"I started working with computers in fourth grade, and I really liked it," she said. "When my family got our own computer, I became aware of how difficult computers were for everyone else."

Computers were just something that I enjoyed."

Although she enjoys the field, she's not a crawler, says a few classes were a challenge for her.

"Financial Management was probably my toughest one," she said. "It was a different concept than what I'm used to working with. There were a lot of terms that I just wasn't familiar

with. I was like, 'What does that mean in English?'"

"But Information Systems I and II were my favorite classes. I was focused on people like who we'll encounter and what we'll deal with in the work place."

Cawmer admits to having had a lot of help along the way. She cites two instructors, Dr. Elizabeth Kemm, assistant professor of computer science, and Jack Oakes, head of the computer information science

department, as her two favorites.

"Amanda's been a pleasure to work with," Oakes said. "She sets a good example and is very enthusiastic and participative. She's one of the best students we've ever had."

In addition to her home life, church, and attending classes, Cawmer also works as a programmer for Financial Accounting Systems in Joplin.

"It began as an internship for me," she said. "I cannot stress enough how important and valuable an internship can be. I got so much experience from mine."

Cawmer also has exciting plans after graduation. A wedding is in the works, and she is set to start her new job as a programmer for the Wal-Mart home office in Bentonville, Ark., on June 15. "I'll be working for Jimmie Clark, who has an internship down there this summer," said Cawmer with excitement in her voice. "So we're getting married the week after I graduate."

Cawmer has also been kept busy with various student groups during her four years at Southern.

"I've been a member of the honors program for four years, as a recipient of the Evans Scholarship. I've also been named the computer information science student of the year. I'm in Kappa Pi and have been on the National Honor Society."

Cawmer offers advice for students who may follow in her tracks.

"Get experience in whatever field you're in before you graduate. An internship will help you tons before you get your full-time job."

Top  
25  
Seniors

Name:  
Amanda Cawmer  
Major:  
Computer Information Science  
GPA:  
3.974



LINDA WHITED/The Chart

Computer information science major Amanda Cawmer is getting married after this month's graduation ceremony.

# Education major, mother works through tough times

By JEFF BILLINGTON  
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Working like a well-trained juggler, elementary education major Julie Ball has had to do some pretty good hand work to earn a 3.977 GPA.

Ball, who will graduate May 23, said finishing her degree has always been important to her.

"Once I got started," she said, "I felt like if I would have quit I would have wasted so much time and energy, so I just kept going."

Besides getting high grades in her classes, Ball also has a family to tend to. She has a husband, Jerrod, and a 2-year-old daughter, Jessica.

Ball said she has enjoyed many of her classes, but one stood out as her favorite.

"My favorite class was probably Methods and Materials," she said. "Mainly because it wasn't a lot of testing; it was more hands-on. We created things and went out and tested them on the children."

Ball also recalled the most difficult class she has taken at Southern.

"My toughest class was [with Dr. Robert] Markman in History 120," she said. "I got a B and I struggled the whole time."

Another situation Ball has had to contend with is her quest to graduate has been the long drive she makes every day to class. Before she was married, she lived with her parents in Exeter. Now she and her family live in Cassville. Ball said there are two instructors at Southern she would consider her favorites: Dr. Susan Neufeld, assistant professor of education, and Dr. Nancy Smith, head of the teacher education department.

She has also had several major-related activities she has had to complete in her time at Southern.

"Education majors have a junior internship," Ball said. "Then there's student teaching. And if you're [an] early childhood [major], you have two practicums, but they're done with the Child Development Center at Missouri Southern."

She has worked in the past as a substitute teacher, a cook, and an assistant secretary. Ball said the biggest obstacle in her life has been time.

"Having a little girl, I just don't have time for anything," she said, "and right now it's really hard. We're trying to buy a house, so we're going through

66  
Having a little girl, I just don't have time for anything, and right now it's really hard.

Julie Ball  
Elementary education major

99

Top  
25  
Seniors

Name:  
Julie Ball  
Major:  
Elementary Education  
GPA:  
3.977

the loan stuff, and I've got student teaching." She said there is one thing she would have done differently if she could do it over again. "I would have waited to have gotten married till afterwards," Ball said. "Just because it's a lot tougher and there are a lot more bills. Before, when I lived with my parents, everything was pretty much free." She said her current plans involve finding a job teaching at one of the area schools. □





## Family support makes graduation possible

By MATT MADURA  
CHART REPORTER

Being a busybody is just another day for Aileen Gronewold, Missouri Southern senior. Gronewold resides in Joplin, near Southern, with her husband, Roger, and children Lindsey, 17; Luke, 14; and Leah, 12. With the support of her family, she decided to come back to school in 1993.

"My family has been really supportive through the whole thing," she said.

Married at 18, she spent 14 years in a children's home ministry with her husband in northeast Oklahoma.

After leaving the ministry, they moved to Joplin and her husband started a business. Gronewold's Auto, which she does the bookkeeping for. She decided to go back to school soon after.

"I have always had an interest in literature and writing," Gronewold said.

She double majored in mass communications, with an emphasis in journalism, and in English, with a minor in French.

"I took classes in communications and English and couldn't decide what I liked most," she said. "So I decided to major in both of them."

Dr. Henry Morgan's Advanced Essay Writing and Dr. Elliott Denniston's Shakespeare were two of her favorite classes.

"She was a class leader in everything she did," said Morgan, professor of English.

"It's amazing how she can do so well being a wife and a mother and still manage to be a full-time student at the same time."

Gronewold, who expects to graduate with a 4.0 grade-point average, has been satisfied with the entire Southern program.

"My experience at Southern has been 100 percent positive," she said. "The thing I like most about Southern is all the activities you can participate in outside of class."

Gronewold is an associate editor of *The Chart*, which entails designing one page and writing at least two stories a week. She made a trip to Washington, D.C. to cover the Chinese president's visit for *The Chart* last fall. Gronewold is also president of the English honor society, Sigma Tau Delta.

Gronewold has received several awards from the Missouri College Media Association and was recently named the outstanding English graduate.

Dr. Chad Stebbins, associate professor of journalism and adviser of *The Chart*, said Gronewold has been one of his all-time

favorite students.

"I have admired Aileen's professionalism, work ethic, and time management skills," Stebbins said. "She really is an amazing student. She has a communications major, an English major, a French minor, and a 4.0 GPA. She spends at least 20 hours each week working on *The Chart*, is active in the English department as well, and has a family at home that also make demands on her time." □

Top  
25  
Seniors

Name:  
**Aileen Gronewold**

Major:  
**English, Mass Communications**

GPA:  
**4.0**

## Graduation pinnacle of collegiate career

By BRANDON LAWSON  
CHART REPORTER

Upon graduating from high school, work and family postponed Barbara Wood's goal of graduating from college.

Now as a non-traditional student majoring in marketing, she is finally going to reach that goal this month.

"It was something I always wanted to do and hadn't had the opportunity to do," Wood said.

She has taken full advantage of that opportunity and maintained a 3.95 grade-point average.

Despite taking care of her family and keeping a job, Wood has managed to find the classes she needed to graduate. She is especially appreciative of her boss at the doctor's office where she has worked since 1979.

"My boss was always really good to work with me, and I feel like I owe him a thanks," Wood said. "In a doctor's office, it is not always convenient for someone to just leave and go to class. They were real supportive of me."

Wood's success is due to her "persistence, hard work, and a little bit of luck."

"You must take it a step at a time," she said. "If you're having a bad semester, it's not going to last forever. Stick with it and don't get discouraged."

Wood's own advice to other students is to "try to start out the semester right as possible to give you momentum."

"If you're not doing as well, then try to put more effort into it," she said. "I'm aware of where I am and try to stay on top of things."

The only thing Wood might have done differently if she



GUINY DUMONTE/CHART  
**Barbara Wood will graduate May 23, with a 3.95 GPA.**

Top  
25  
Seniors

Name:  
**Barbara Wood**

Major:  
**Marketing**

GPA:  
**3.95**

could go back and start from scratch to start college earlier in her life.

"I had to change my major a couple of times, but to me it all worked out fine," she said.

Dr. Holland Blades, professor of marketing, is Wood's adviser and knows her to be an "extremely nice person and excellent student."

"Some of the courses she has taken were independent study courses," Blades said. "She not only does a good job, but she does her work very well. She has a great professor relationship. The fact that she is able to do what she does makes her an excellent role model."

"Dr. Blades was a great source of encouragement for me," Wood said. "During the last stretch you start to get a little tired of school. He was real good with helping me through all."

One thing Wood doesn't have while taking classes is extra time.

"I don't have a lot of free time between work and school, plus I babysit my granddaughter," she said.

Two things she enjoys doing when those rare moments of free time do come is walking and reading.

When Wood graduates, she plans to go into medical or supply sales or become a pharmaceutical representative.

Some of the best advice Wood ever heard was from her sister and brother-in-law when she first went back to school.

"The semester is only a few weeks long," she said. "Just get through it, and the next one will be completely different." □



# Baby doesn't hinder plans

By SARAH KYLE  
CHART REPORTER

Giving birth just two months before graduating still doesn't stop Tammy Spicer from making the list of top 25 seniors at Missouri Southern.

Spicer gave birth to daughter Morgan on March 16, a week before spring break. She was back in class when the semester resumed two weeks later.

After graduating from high school in Ohio, Spicer decided to join the Army, where she spent four years and met her husband-to-be, Brad. She currently is a member of the National Guard.

"All my friends were going off to college, but that wasn't what I wanted to do yet," Spicer said.

While she was in the Army, she took college classes in Texas. After she left the service she went to college in Ohio and at Crowder College before spending her last two years at Southern. Spicer has earned a 4.0 grade-point average.

Spicer, a mass communications major and marketing minor, selected her major through the military, where she was involved with journalism. Her favorite class in the communications department was Intercultural

Communications with Dr. Allen Merriam, professor of communications. Spicer said the instructor she learned the most from was Dr. Chad Stebbins, associate professor of journalism and adviser to *The Chart*.

"Working so many hours a week at *The Chart* with Dr. Stebbins has given me many opportunities," Spicer said.

"Tammy is one of the most interesting students I have met," Stebbins said. "She is very mature, hard working, and a true professional. She is a very dedicated person and has brought a great deal to *The Chart* as the paper's executive editor this year."

Spicer recently was honored as the outstanding student in mass communications. She also had some interesting travel opportunities. In October, Spicer spent five days in Washington, D.C. covering the visit of the Chinese president.

"We managed to get press passes for the welcoming ceremony on the White House lawn," Spicer said. "So I was standing there taking pictures of the presidents right alongside the major newspapers."

"But I have to admit, I was most excited about my pictures of Richard Gere," she said with a laugh. Gere was in Washington, D.C. in protest the visit.

During the spring of 1997, Spicer served as the State Capitol intern for *The Chart*, spending much of the semester in Jefferson City.

After graduation this month, Spicer plans to move with her family to Jefferson City, where her husband is being transferred.

Spicer has some words of advice.

"Take full advantage of what Southern has to offer, get involved, and be a part of *The Chart*," she said. □



GINNY DUMOND/The Chart

Tammy Spicer gave birth to Morgan Wind Spicer on March 16, one week. She was back in class after spring break — two weeks later.

## Top 25 Seniors

Name:  
Tammy Spicer  
Major:  
Mass Communications  
GPA:  
3.969



TAMMY CADY/The Chart

Terese Mlakar has been involved with several art organizations, including Southern Concepts Club.

## Mlakar's education not just about grades

### Club involvement helps exchange student build graphic art portfolio

By KIKI COFFMAN  
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Terese Mlakar is not a bookworm. When Jim Bray, head of the art department, set up an exchange program between Mallsjofolkhögskola, Sweden and Missouri Southern, Mlakar decided to participate by moving to Missouri for a semester. Four years later, she is still here and preparing to graduate on May 23 as one of the top 25 seniors.

Mlakar's approach has been simple.

"I have just done my thing and tried to do my very best."

Dressed in stylish black pants, funky shoes, and a slim-fitted shirt, Mlakar appears classy, unique, and in control. Her individualistic style has transposed itself into a material offspring — her portfolio.

"I think the most helpful and preparatory things I have experienced in school are the meetings and judges who have helped critique the portfolios," she said. "You put a lot into it, and that has been a real goal of mine."

In four years at Southern, Mlakar has been a member of the American Advertising Federation, American Institute of Graphic Arts, International Club, Southern Concepts Ad Club, and the Alpha Chi National Honor Society.

"I haven't been that active in all of my clubs, although I realize that other people probably have been," she said. "I have tried to focus on my artwork and participate in the clubs when I can."

Mlakar said Dave Noblett, associate pro-

fessor of art, has proven invaluable.

"Mr. Noblett has given me really helpful hints about jobs and other opportunities," Mlakar said.

Despite her 3.968 GPA, Mlakar's view on grades is nonchalant.

"I know that some people really worry about their grades and what their parents think about them," she said. "But my parents could care less about the grades — they never ask about them. They just want to know that I am learning and preparing myself."

Aside from her portfolio preparation and ceramic work,

Mlakar's photographic skills have earned her

experience and recognition. Her photographs have appeared in many exhibits and publications. □

## Top 25 Seniors

Name:  
Terese Mlakar  
Major:  
Graphic Arts  
GPA:  
3.968



# Koehler gains insight, degree

Love of children motivates choice of field

By ANDY SEARCY  
CHART REPORTER

In choosing a career dealing with children, one must possess two skills: patience and a love for children.

Teaching is one of those careers in which one needs patience and a love for children.

An elementary education major, Heather Koehler said she has always had a love for children.

"I worked at a preschool for two years during college, and I really enjoyed that," Koehler said.

It is a love of children that solidified her decision to become a teacher. Her love for children goes back to her early teen years when she was a babysitter.

Last fall, Koehler was a student teacher at Riverton Elementary. She student taught for kinder-

garden and first grade. Koehler graduated in December 1997 with a 3.964 grade-point average, and is presently a kindergarten aide at West Central Elementary in Joplin.

"I would like to teach kindergarten in the fall," she said. "That's my main goal."

She said there is no real secret to her success, just hard work, determination, and a lot of sacrifice.

"Sometimes you might want to go out, but you have to make a sacrifice and stay home and study," Koehler said. "I believe luck and hard work go hand in hand."

Her toughest class at Southern was Physical Science for Elementary Teachers. Her favorite was Pedagogical Theory, Methods, and Practice because that is the class that challenged her the most. She said it made her think more creatively and learn how to work with what was available.

Top  
25  
Seniors

Name:

Heather Koehler

Major:

Elementary education

GPA:

3.964

"Everything in that class we had to make," Koehler said. "As a teacher you don't have very much money to go out and buy the materials."

Her favorite instructor at

Southern was Dr. Susan Neufeld, assistant professor of education, who was also her adviser. Koehler said Neufeld helped her out during stressful times. She also helped her calm down when she was nervous about a project or an assignment.

"Heather always seemed to be extremely motivated and energetic when it came to any of her work," Neufeld said. "I found Heather to be an extremely wonderful student in the classroom."

Koehler's family consists of a brother who is 30. She is engaged to Ashley Baine, a junior political science major. They have been together for two years and plan to tie the knot May 30. Koehler met Baine while working for a local movie theater.

"He got promoted to assistant manager, so I had to quit working there because of their manager/employee dating policy," Koehler said.

"After that, we continued dating and got engaged about a year ago." □

"Sometimes you might want to go out, but you have to make a sacrifice and stay home and study."

Heather Koehler  
Elementary  
education major



Robin McAlester works in an editing bay in the MSTV studio. She works as student promotions manager for KGCS-LP, Missouri Southern's television station.

SUSIE FROST  
The Chart

## McAlester prioritizes goals

God, family, then scholastics make top of graduate's list

By HEATHER FARREN  
CHART REPORTER

The secret to success for Robin McAlester is to get priorities straight: first comes God, then family, then school.

McAlester, a communications major who graduates in July, is at the top after three and a half years of hard work.

She went to Crowder College for two years on a full scholarship for writing.

She then put school on hold to have a family and move to South Carolina.

After seven years away, she returned and has been living in Seneca while attending Missouri Southern. McAlester has attended Southern for only three semesters.

"Last-minute studying helps," she said.

"I don't know why everyone gives me the grades."

She enjoys working with people, and is currently serving a public relations internship with Children's Miracle Network.

Her plans are to stay with the nonprofit organization after graduation.

"My drive is not for money, but for helping other people," McAlester said.

She leads a busy life with two sons ages 9 and 3, and she has been married for 10 years. A leader for her son's Cub Scout den, McAlester also co-directs the children's Sunday school classes at her church.

Besides all of this, she is a member of the Modern Communications Club and works at KGCS-LP as student promotions manager. She recently was named the outstanding student in speech communication.

McAlester, who carries a grade-point average of 3.938, believes "it's not about the grade, but the material you learn."

Her toughest class was Fundamentals of Physical Science.

"I'm not math-oriented," McAlester said. "I would rather write a paper."

Her favorite class was Nonverbal Communication, taught by her favorite instructor, Dr. Carolyn Yocum, professor of communications.

"Dr. Yocum is always looking at technique, not the grade," McAlester said.

McAlester said the reason she came back to school is simple.

"You go out in the real world, you will find out," she said. □

Top  
25  
Seniors

Name:

Robin McAlester

Major:

Communications

GPA:

3.938



# Teaching becomes Crim's ambition

By JO BETH HARRIS  
CHART REPORTER

Like most college students, Gary Crim had to pay for his education. However, long work hours didn't stop him from achieving a 3.93 grade-point average.

Crim, a December 1997 art education graduate, is one of the top 25 graduates of Missouri Southern.

He began his college career at Crowder College and transferred to Southern after completing two years there. Overall, he was happy at Southern.

"Southern definitely has more to offer," Crim said. "They also have a very

good art department. Since that is my major, this was an important factor."

Starting this fall, Crim will attend the University of Missouri in Columbia for

graduate studies. He plans to receive a master of fine arts in ceramics, qualifying him to teach at the college level.

While completing studies at Southern, Crim encountered some difficult classes. He said the most difficult was Critical Issues in Education. Because it is only a six-week course,

the class was extremely intense.

Because art is his major, it is only logical that an art class was his favorite. Pottery was his favorite class for several reasons. This form of art is the one he enjoys most, and the schedule isn't as rigid.

"After you take two classes in pottery you get to make your own syllabus," Crim said.

"You still have a set number of required projects, but you have a lot more freedom."

Jim Bray, head of the art depart-

ment, has been a real inspiration to Crim. He was quite motivated by Bray's painting and drawing class. He believed Bray made everything exciting and is "probably the best artist I know personally." Bray has praise for Crim as well.

"I watched him (Crim) mature as a drawing artist," Bray said. "He became very refined and sophisticated. He does very mature work."

While at Southern, Crim was recognized in a variety of ways. He was a member and past president of the Art League.

During the summer of 1997, Crim traveled with fellow art students to Sweden to study art history and take art classes at a local college. He received a \$2,000 scholarship for the trip.

Crim has worked extremely hard to achieve his scholastic goals, something he advises for all students. Some other advice for students is to avoid partying, because it can ruin one's first and second semesters.

He believes art students should take everything they do seriously and devote as much time to their work as possible. □

Top  
25  
Seniors

Name:

Gary Crim

Major:

Art Education

GPA:

3.937



JEFF BILLINGTON/The Chart

Gary Crim, art education major, starts one of many ceramic pieces he has produced at Missouri Southern.

“I basically made school my main priority, and it paid off in the long run.”

## Transfer student credits hard work, goalsetting for degree

By ESDRA LAMY  
CHART REPORTER

The ability to work hard and set goals, and faith has helped Naomi Jordan, elementary education major, to reach a milestone.

Jordan, who has a 3.932 grade-point average, is one of this year's top 25 seniors.

"I wasn't much of a party person," she said. "I basically made school my main priority, and it paid off in the long run."

Jordan transferred to Southern from Crowder College for her junior year. Between the two schools, she made A's in every class except one.

"My toughest class was geography with Benita Sinha and was the only B I received while I was here," Jordan said.

She doesn't have a secret for her success, but she mentioned the best way to survive in college is to plan ahead.

"For me, it was to start studying three or four days ahead before a test," Jordan said. "Take in a little at a time, then you absorb more."

She also believes for her major that planning and organizing is crucial. Being organized in college is starting to come handy for her now as a student teacher.

After graduation she plans to take a job with the Bentonville, Ark., school district.

And within the next year or so she plans to work toward her

master's in counseling, which she also has a minor in.

Jordan's goal as a counselor is to be on a personal level with students, because she believes as an instructor in a class of 20 or more students it's harder to give them the attention they need.

"It's sad seeing how many problems a 7-year-old kid can have these days," Jordan said.

She believes she received a quality education from both Southern and Crowder.

"I felt I got a lot of one-on-one attention from my professors," she said.

Her favorite instructor was Dr. Ralph Leverett, who taught Microteaching before leaving Southern.

"He had a major influence on me because he made believe that I can be a good teacher and helped me to believe that I was a natural," Jordan said.

She also enjoyed the teaching style of Dr. Nancy Smith, head of the department of teacher education.

"I like the way she help me built my confidence," Jordan said.

"Naomi is the type of student who'll set a goal and put her focus on that goal till she achieves it," Smith said.

The most important thing to Jordan is discipline. And she believes that's been important through her four years as a student.

"The whole point to discipline is not to get mad, but discipline has to be done quickly, consistently, and fairly," she said. □

Top  
25  
Seniors

Name:

Naomi Jordan

Major:

Elementary Education

GPA:

3.932



TIM WILSON/The Chart

Naomi Jordan, elementary education major, received A's in all of her courses except a geography class.



# Enjoying life is her goal

By JACQUE MULLINS  
CHART REPORTER

After seeing the Jim Stafford show in Branson 45 times, one might think Jennifer Stellwagen would be a performer.

However, the only performing Stellwagen, senior biology major, does is dressing up to work at Silver Dollar City.

"The Jim Stafford show is my favorite show in Branson," she said. "It is family oriented, and he is very down to earth, funny, and extremely talented."

"Working at Silver Dollar City has its advantages. I get into all the Branson shows and activities free."

Aside from Silver Dollar City, Stellwagen has worked at Jack Henry and Associates in Monett and the Branson Health Department.

After attending Missouri Southern for four years, Stellwagen is graduating this month with a 3.93 grade-point average.

After graduating, Stellwagen plans to take a year off and look at what jobs are available. She would like to work in or around the Branson area.

"I plan to keep my eyes open, weigh my options, and see what happens," Stellwagen said. "I'm excited to see what it's like out there. Just keep your eyes open and take what comes along. I've been blessed. A lot of opportuni-

ties have just fallen in my lap."

After taking time off, she then plans to attend graduate school at either the University of Texas or the University of Arkansas.

Stellwagen, originally from Monett, chose Southern because it was close to home and she received a scholarship. Stellwagen has enjoyed her time and experiences on campus.

"I feel I have a really good relationship with a lot of my professors," she said. "The caliber of professors is better at a small college; the ones that are here are here to teach. It's been great."

The biggest obstacle Stellwagen had to overcome was "learning the difference between studying in high school and studying in college."

Stellwagen's major came easy to her, and she plans to teach biology on the college level. Her toughest subject was Organic Chemistry, but her favorite class was Human Physiology and Anatomy.

"I really love animal and human biology," she said. "It's very interesting to me."

Dr. James Jackson, professor of biology, was Stellwagen's favorite instructor.

"Dr. Jackson makes it fun," she said. "He doesn't just lecture, he tries to get everyone involved in the class."

You can tell he's passionate about what he does, and that makes everyone else excited about it, too."

Top  
25  
Seniors

Name:

Jennifer Stellwagen

Major:

Biology

GPA:

3.925

"One of the joys of being at this institution is being around intelligent individuals," Jackson said. "Jennifer is one of the most clever individuals I've ever met. She has a degree of internal motivation, by which she measures whether she is accomplishing a lot or a little on her own terms. I can truly say that knowing Jennifer has been a very positive learning experience for me."

Stellwagen's reason for continuing her education was knowing a college degree will help her with long-term goals.

"I will have more options down the road," she said. "There will be more open doors for those people with an education than for those without one. The thing I am the most proud of is surviving college."

While at Southern, Stellwagen



STEPHANIE GOAD/The Chart

Jennifer Stellwagen continued her education because it will help her with long-term goals and will give her more options down the road.

was involved in intramural sports, the honors program, and the Pre-Professional Biology Club. Her hobbies include fishing and any kind of sport.

Stellwagen's long-term goal is to "have a good time," and her philosophy of life is to "have fun and enjoy what you're doing."

Stellwagen credits her mother as being her hero.

"My mother has always been my best friend," she said. "I like that she doesn't have to just be my mom."

She understands me, and when I'm happy, she's happy. I've learned a lot from her." □

## Henderson pursues teaching career

By BRIAN WIRTH  
CHART REPORTER

One of the top 25 graduating seniors plans to pursue a career in teaching the fourth grade.

Kimberly Henderson, elementary education major, attended Ozark Christian College for two and a half years before making her way to Missouri Southern in the spring of 1996.

She came here because of the teaching programs offered.

"I am really happy with the teaching classes here at Southern," she said.

Henderson, who has a 3.929 GPA, said her toughest class was Foundations of Education.

"It was a writing intensive class and it was very difficult," she said.

Henderson's favorite class is Problems of Arithmetic, taught by Dr. Juan Vazquez, head of the mathematics department.

Top  
25  
Seniors

Name:

Kimberly Henderson

Major:

Education

GPA:

3.929

"Kimberly was a great student in class and I was very impressed with her dedication, responsibility, and commitment," Vazquez said.

"I am very, very sure she will make a great teacher."

Henderson also enjoys student teaching. She now teaches fourth grade at Eugene Field Elementary in Webb City.

"I enjoy student teaching and the kids over all pretty well," she said.

Henderson is a member of Kappa Delta Pi and the Student Missouri State Teachers Association, which are both clubs for education majors.

Henderson came to Missouri from Claremore, Okla., where her family resides.

"If I had to do it all over again, I think I would try to get my degree faster than five years," she said.

The advice Henderson has for current Southern students is pretty simple.

"Stick with your classes because graduation will be here before you know it," she said. □



DIANA BROWN/The Chart

Kimberly Henderson engages in student teaching fourth grade at Eugene Field Elementary School.